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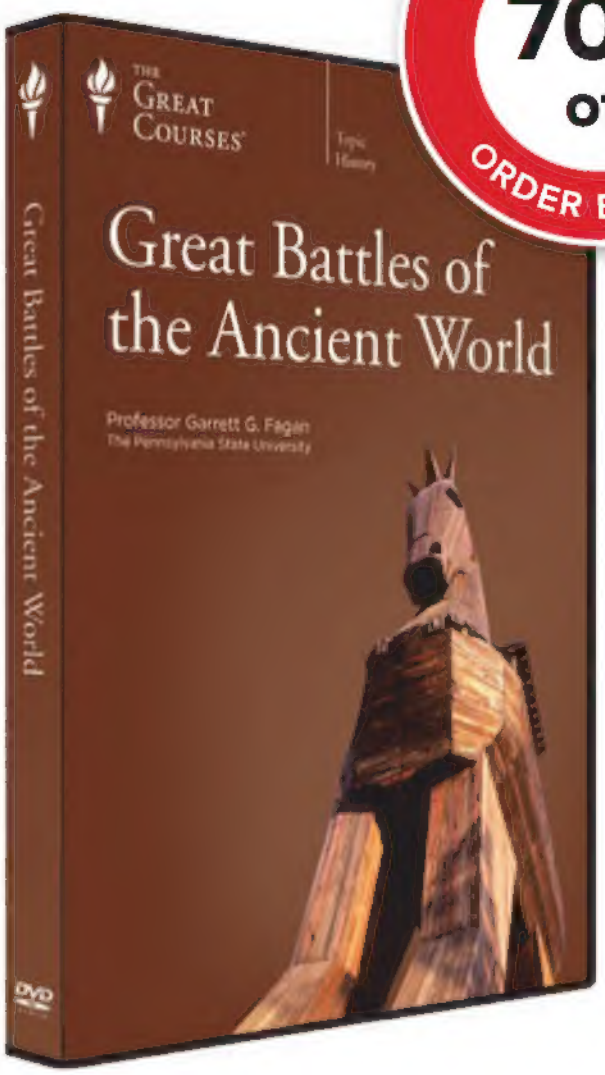
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Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Our cover photograph was taken June 5, 1944,

the night before D-Day. Surrounding Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower are the paratroopers of Company E, 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment. They are listening intently to their commander as he speaks. The man opposite Eisenhower, with a Screaming Eagles patch and a tag with the number 23, is jumpmaster 1st Lt. Wallace Strobel. It is his 22nd birthday.

Many have speculated as to what Eisenhower was saying to Strobel. Perhaps he was echoing his order of the day: "We will accept nothing less than full Victory." But Strobel remembered something different. According to him, the topic was fishing.

In interviews and his writings, Strobel said that Eisenhower asked his name and where he was from. Strobel answered, "Strobel, sir. Michigan." The general replied, "Oh yes, Michigan. Great fishing there. I like it," before continuing to ask if the men were ready for battle. Strobel said they were "all set" and that he didn't think they "would have too much of a problem."

The next day, in the dark morning hours of June 6, 1944, these brave young men jumped out of airplanes to start a European invasion that would herald the end of World War II. One of the lucky ones, Strobel survived D-Day and the war. He died 55 years later at age 77 in 1999.

Amy Briggs

Amy Briggs, Executive Editor

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HISTORY

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Vibrant banners fly and jubilant spectators cheer the sacred barks during ancient Egypt's Opet festival, in a painting by American artist Balage Balogh.

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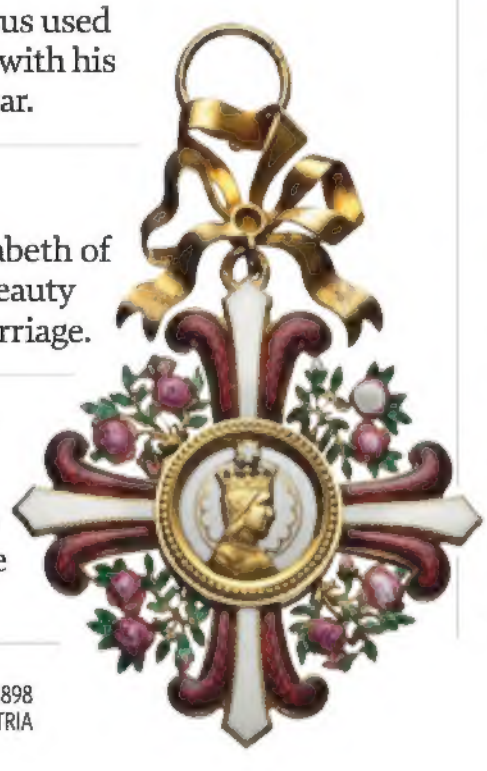

A MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF ELISABETH, FOUNDED IN 1898 IN MEMORY OF ELISABETH, EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA

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The discovery of a cavernous, 18th-century icehouse has
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tracked down Bubastis, the city sacred to the Egyptian cat goddess, Bastet.

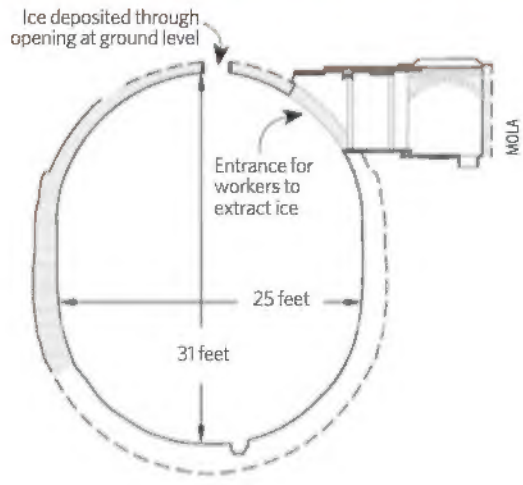
MOLA

ABOVE: An archaeologist inspects the exterior of the underground icehouse discovered in London's Regent's Park district. **RIGHT:** Researchers explore the icehouse's 31-foot-deep, egg-shaped chamber. **BELOW RIGHT:** A sketch shows the layout of the brick-built chamber and the location of its two entrances, one for workers and the other for ice.

ICE AND INDUSTRIALIZATION

Deep Freeze: London's Lost Icehouse

Buried away underneath the streets of London is a cavernous chamber once used to supply ice to the wealthy in the 18th and 19th centuries.



Archaeologists from MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) were carrying out a site investigation in the city's wealthy Regent's Park district when they made a chilling discovery: a massive brick-built chamber measuring 31 feet deep and 25 feet wide.

They quickly determined that it was an icehouse, one of the biggest ever found in the city. The egg-shaped chamber dates to the 1780s and was used well into the 19th century to store blocks of lake ice brought in from Norway.

During the German Blitz in World War II, bombs destroyed the houses above but did no damage to the chamber below. Rubble from the destruction was used to fill the icehouse, hiding it for decades.

Historians had long been aware that an icehouse was somewhere in the area, but they did not know exactly where. It took months to remove the debris from the chamber. The complex, a few feet above a busy underground rail line, was built to last.

A Cool Fortune

Following its discovery, it has been possible to piece together its story, and the central role it played in London's ice trade. Although the Regent's Crescent icehouse was one of an

MOLA

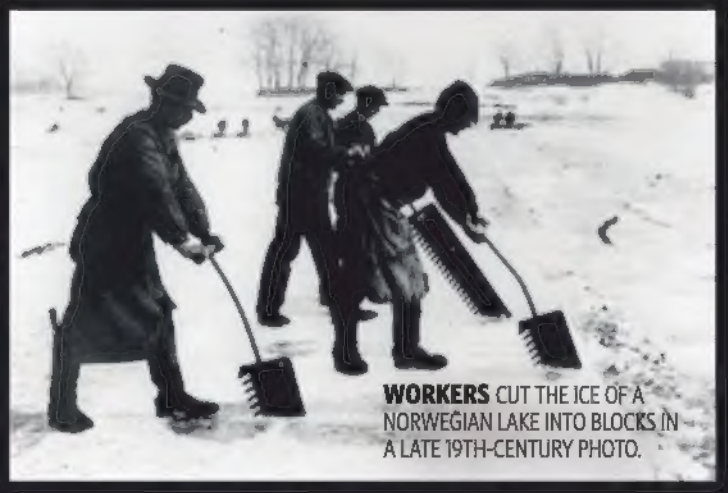
estimated 2,000 then in use in the capital, it was much larger than most. The MOLA team determined that ice was deposited through a hole at the top, and a separate entry allowed access to take it out.

When the Regent's Canal was completed nearby in 1820, the icehouse's size and proximity to the canal suddenly made it a highly profitable proposition. It is believed that an entrepreneur, William Leftwich, acquired it in the 1820s.

Leftwich could see the ice trade was changing rapidly. For centuries, ice stored in Britain had come from local rivers. Even in cold winters, there was not enough high quality ice to meet demand.

By the 1820s, however, improved shipping could bring ice to London from overseas. Taking advantage of the canal system, Leftwich began importing large quantities of ice blocks from Norwegian lakes to London. His massive icehouse, conveniently located near the Regent's Canal, was the perfect place for storage.

From here it would be distributed to clients for use in luxuries like ice cream and sorbets, as well as for medical and dental procedures. For nearly a century, this valuable commodity, would continue to make men like Leftwich rich, until the invention of household refrigeration systems in the early 20th century. ■

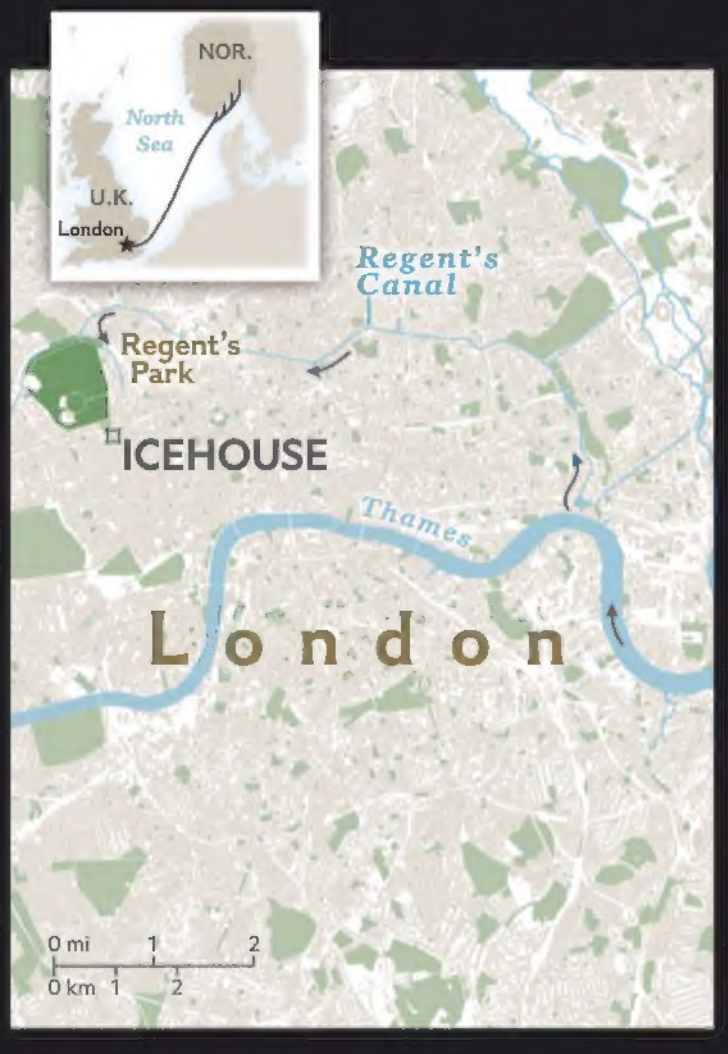


WORKERS CUT THE ICE OF A NORWEGIAN LAKE INTO BLOCKS IN A LATE 19TH-CENTURY PHOTO.

LONDON CANAL MUSEUM

MASS TRANSIT

ENGLAND'S CANALS enabled William Leftwich to build an empire of ice. His storehouse was located along the Regent's Canal in London, which linked the capital's western canal network with the eastern stretch of the Thames. Prior to the existence of these canals, ice consumption in Britain was limited to the very rich. After their construction, the canals broadened access to ice through rapid transport, making larger quantities of ice available and affordable. For Head of Built Heritage at MOLA David Sorapure, the importance of the Regent's Crescent icehouse is that "it bridges the gap between [the time when] ice was only for the very wealthy, to a kind of mass availability of ice, which you get from the 1830s and 40s . . . It's ice for everyone, eventually."



NG MAPS

Beau Brummell, First Male Fashion Icon

Once the toast of London's early 19th-century social scene, Beau Brummell died in poverty. But his notions on men's dress still inform modern styles.

Innovater, Influencer, Debtor

1778

George Bryan Brummell is born in London to a middle-class family. His father is secretary to Lord North.

1799

Brummell inherits money following the death of his father in 1794 and becomes a trendsetter in London.

1816

After descending into debt, Brummell flees to France to escape his creditors and prison.

1830

Brummell becomes British consul in Caen after years in exile spent running up more debts in Calais.

1835

Having helped abolish his consular post a few years previously, Brummell is jailed for debt.

1840

After a mental breakdown, Brummell dies in an asylum in Caen.

George Bryan "Beau" Brummell, described as the most famous and influential man in early 19th-century London, was the center of a revolution. He sparked change not with rhetoric or military might, but with innovations in masculine sartorial style and manner. Men copied what he wore, his mannerisms, and even his daily grooming routine.

Today he is remembered as the world's first dandy, but although his name became synonymous with the label, he didn't inspire its creation. The *Oxford English Dictionary*, defining the term as one "who studies above everything to dress elegantly and fashionably," traces its origins to 1780, just two years after Brummell's birth. Nevertheless, Brummell became a symbol of a new masculine style, one that still dictates the way people dress today.

The Making of a Tastemaker

Born in London in 1778, Brummell grew up during a revolutionary age in Europe and North America. The French and American Revolutions (1789–1799; 1775–1783) marked the decline of the aristocracy and the rise of the individual. Men's clothing began to convey these political and economic changes. The 18th-century male style, heavily influenced by French royalty, was elaborate and flamboyant: a rainbow of hues in billowy silk, satin, and velvet fabrics; lace cravats and cuffs; knee-length breeches with stockings; high, powdered white wigs; and makeup.

The growth of a new British style, one that embraced simplicity, structure, and understatement with monochrome and military fabrics, abandoned such prerevolutionary fashions. Psychologist John Carl Flügel later dubbed this gradual process of simplification in men's dress the "great masculine renunciation," whereby men's fashion became inspired by social equality. It turned its back on extravagance, and excessive grooming became regarded as a feminine trait.

Brummell, a keen observer of society, recognized the social mobility that the modern era promised, one where style and personality rather than birth and wealth could herald status and strength. In 1790 he began his studies at Eton College—where he precociously reformed the distinctive Eton necktie—followed by one term at Oxford University. In 1794 Brummell moved to London and joined the elite Tenth Royal Hussars regiment, commanded by the Prince of Wales, later to become King George IV. The prince and

Brummell urged "the maximum of luxury in the service of minimal ostentation."

GEORGE, PRINCE OF WALES. CAMEO BY JAMES TASSIE, CIRCA 1790
BRIDGEMAN/ACI

DARING TO BE DIFFERENT

BRUMMELL was decidedly anti-intellectual, adopting a studied pose of indifference. But the dandy as an artist, one who expressed individuality and modernity of ideas, became an aesthetic philosophy and part of the cultural landscape. Dandyism inspired writers and artists such as Oscar Wilde, Honoré de Balzac, and Albert Camus, and has been used to describe the works of modern writers and artists, including Tom Wolfe, Andy Warhol, and Madonna.

PORTRAIT OF BRUMMELL DURING HIS LONDON HEYDAY. COLOR ETCHING BASED ON A MINIATURE

GRANGER/AURIMAGES

his intimates admired and were captivated by Brummell's aesthetic, quick wit, and charm. Buoyed by this patronage, Brummell became their role model, the arbiter of elegance in London society during the first decade of the 19th century.

Sharp Dressed Man

Brummell's fashion mantra urged "the maximum of luxury in the service of minimal ostentation." Or as people might say today, "less is more." Elegance was about cut and quality rather than color and decoration. He warned that "If people turn to look at you in the street, you are not well dressed, but either too stiff, too tight, or too fashionable."

A well-fitting coat in dark blue wool with full-length buff trousers and linen shirt, a stark white linen cravat, and dark riding boots accomplished this new look of understated, elegant simplicity. The tailors of London's Savile Row transformed their shops into a sartorial mecca to meet Brummell's exacting standards, and even gave him samples so that he could serve as a walking advertisement for their wares.

Brummell also advocated innovations in personal hygiene. Just as clothes should look polished and clean-cut, so too should one's person. He replaced a reliance on perfume and hair powder with the concept of a daily bath. For his contemporaries, bathing often meant washing only face, hands, and arms in cool water; sweating was believed to rid the body of toxins. Brummell's suggestion of a daily soak in hot water was nothing short of revolutionary.

His grooming practices, some eccentric, became well-known. He shined his

AT A BALL Brummell often socialized with nobility. In this 19th-century color lithograph, Brummell (far left) converses with a duchess.

GRANGER/ALBUM

boots with champagne. His bathing and dressing ritual, which was sometimes attended by the Prince of Wales, occupied several hours of every morning. He used a silver spittoon instead of spitting on the floor, as was the custom. He spent hours trying out different ways of knotting his cravat to make it seem effortless.

This pursuit of nonchalance extended to Brummell's carefully constructed persona. As the first truly modern celebrity, Brummell understood that his "look" included not just his style but his manner. His physical appearance, from the clothes he wore to the pose he proffered, was an image he carefully crafted. Brummell's wit matched his wardrobe—smart and sharp—but his superior bearing, his air of languorous indifference, was a masquerade, a character he played. One prop in his persona—a quizzing glass, a single magnifying lens held in one hand—enhanced his ability to haughtily judge those within his glare. His high-tied cravat, which forced a slight tilt of his head and downward cast of his eyes, achieved the same suggestion of superiority.

His name and image spurred the creation of exaggerated, fictionalized accounts of his behavior. One story claimed that Brummell, lounging on an ottoman at the prince's manor, ordered the prince to ring the servant's bell for more champagne. When the servant arrived, the affronted prince allegedly asked him to prepare, not more champagne, but "Mr. Brummell's carriage." This incident did not occur, but Brummell's attempts to

TIED TO PERFECTION

BEAU BRUMMELL could spend a whole morning getting the knot of his cravat to look just right. If the knot did not come out perfectly the first time, he would untie it, cast it aside, and start again with another one. His valet, once seen carrying out a heap of crumpled cravats, was reported to have said: "These are our failures."

CRAVAT TIED IN A 19TH-CENTURY ETCHING

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A CUT ABOVE

BEAU BRUMMELL was not an aristocrat; he was a commoner admitted to the royal circle. Maintaining that position meant living beyond his means. Some historians believe that the sobriety of his style was linked to the relative modesty of his origins. As he could not compete in terms of jewels and ornamentation, he concentrated instead on refining the cut of his clothes. Brummell created and made fashionable the modern man's suit. His attire was hand-tailored and form flattering, marking the end of billowy pantaloons and tunics. The linen cravats that he expertly knotted were the precursors of modern ties, and the structured shirts he favored were of a similar cut to those worn today.

A short, slightly tousled haircut
Linen, muslin, or silk cravat
Short-tailed jacket
Top hat, cane, and gloves
Form-fitting breeches
High, pointed, riding boots (Hessians)

COLOR LITHOGRAPH OF BEAU BRUMMELL DRESSED IN HIS ICONIC STYLE, BY ROBERT DIGHTON, 1805
BRIDGEMAN/ACI

deny the story failed. His impudent and stylish persona sometimes made falsehoods difficult to identify.

Exile and Ignominy

By his late 30s, the same piercing humor and cool impertinence that had marked his ascent up the social ladder also marked his descent into disgrace. Brummell did, in fact, publicly insult the prince regent, asking the prince's companion, "Who is your fat friend?"

Whether this was, in fact, the offense that brought an end to their relationship in 1812 is still lost in historical rumor. The loss of his royal patron did not immediately affect Brummell's lofty societal position, but his extravagant lifestyle and gambling habits had exhausted the small fortune he had inherited from his father. To escape his creditors, in 1816 Brummell fled to Calais, in northern France. He was appointed British consul in 1830 in nearby Caen, but the position lasted only two years. Lacking diplomatic immunity, he was jailed for his mounting debts. Charitable friends from England secured his release, but Brummell spent his final days in a state of severe depression and self-delusion. The man who had thought beer the most vulgar of drink confused it with champagne. He donned an evening coat, lit candles, and displayed flowers to host parties for nobles who were but ghosts—long-dead royalty whose departure from his imaginary soiree was signaled only by a brief respite from madness.

In 1840, at the age of 61, Brummell died in an asylum in Caen, and was buried in a coffin paid for by charity, an ignominious end for a man once celebrated for his style.

His legacy, however, is assured. Finding his elevation to style icon inexplicable, Brummell once asked a confidant: "If the world is so silly as to admire my absurdities . . . what does that signify?" Even so, his "absurdities" permanently transformed men's fashion and lifestyle. His creation of the sculptured suit, collar and tie—even a grooming routine—still informs the way many men dress. Indeed, with his nonchalant display of wit, poise, and indifference that aimed to astonish rather than to please, Brummell created not only the modern concept of individuality but celebrity.

His bronze statue stands in a fitting location: London's historic and fashionable Jermyn Street, home to the city's finest men's tailors. It bears Brummell's mantra: "To be truly elegant one should not be noticed," a perhaps ironic encapsulation of the man who was not only noticed but copied, the catalyst and poster boy of a fashion revolution.

—*Ignacio Peyró*

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Sign Language: Meaning in Motion

Beginning in the 16th century, clerics and teachers let their fingers do the talking and overcame centuries of misconceptions about the abilities of deaf people.

BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL DE ESPAÑA

JUAN PABLO BONET'S 1620 BOOK ON EDUCATING THE DEAF

For millennia people with hearing impairments encountered marginalization because it was believed that language could only be learned by hearing the spoken word. Ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle, for example, asserted that "Men that are deaf are in all cases also dumb." Under Roman law people who were born deaf were denied the right to sign a will as they were "presumed to understand nothing; because it is not possible that they have been able to learn to read or write."

Pushback against this prejudice began in the Renaissance. The first person credited with the creation of a formal sign language for the hearing impaired was Pedro Ponce de León, a 16th-century Spanish Benedictine monk. His idea to use sign language was not a completely new idea. Native Americans used hand gestures to communicate with other tribes and to facilitate trade with Europeans. Christian monks used them to convey messages during vows of silence.

Breaking the Silence

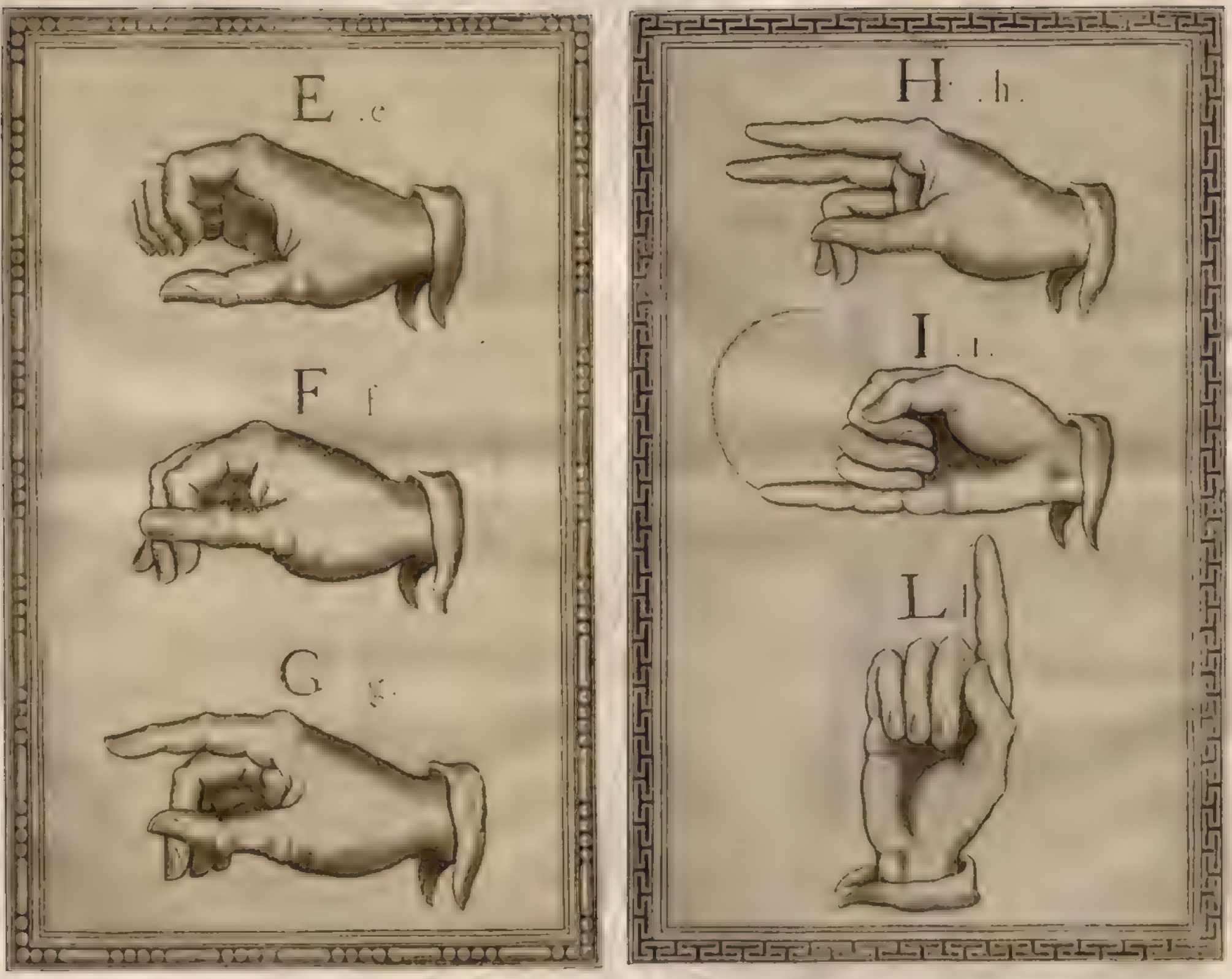
Inspired by the latter practice, Ponce de León adapted the gestures used in his monastery to create a method for teaching the deaf to communicate, paving the way for systems now used all over the world.

Building on Ponce de León's work, another Spanish cleric, priest and linguist Juan Pablo Bonet, continued exploring new communication methods. Bonet criticized some of the brutal methods that had been used to get deaf people to speak: "Sometimes they are put into casks in which the voice booms and reverberates. These violent measures are by no means to the purpose."

In 1620 he published the first surviving work on the education of people with a hearing disability. Bonet proposed that deaf people learn to pronounce words and progressively construct meaningful phrases. The first step in this process was what he called the demonstrative alphabet, a manual system in which the right hand made shapes to represent each letter. This alphabet, very similar to the modern sign language alphabet, was based on the Aretina score, a system of musical notation created by Guido Aretinus, an Italian monk in the Middle Ages, to help singers sight-read music. The deaf person would learn to associate each letter of the alphabet with a phonetic sound. Bonet's approach combined oralism—using sounds to communicate—with sign language. The system had its challenges, especially when learning the words for abstract terms, or intangible forms such as conjunctions like "for," "nor," or "yet."

CHARLES-MICHEL DE L'ÉPÉE TEACHING THE HEARING IMPAIRED IN HIS PARIS INSTITUTE. 19TH-CENTURY PAINTING BY FRÉDÉRIC PEYSON

BRIDGEMAN/ACI



JUAN PABLO BONET'S 1620 *Reduction of the Letters of the Alphabet and Method of Teaching Deaf-Mutes to Speak* provided detailed illustrations of signs.
BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL DE ESPAÑA

In 1755 the French Catholic priest Charles-Michel de l'Épée established a more comprehensive method for educating the deaf, which culminated in the founding of the first public school for deaf children, the National Institute for Deaf-Mutes in Paris. Students came to the institute from all over France, bringing signs they had used to communicate with at home. Épée adapted these signs and added his own manual alphabet, creating a signing dictionary. Insistent that sign language needed to be a complete language, his system was complex enough to express prepositions, conjunctions, and other grammatical elements. Épée is known as the father of the deaf for his work and his establishment of 21 schools.

Épée's standardized sign language quickly spread across Europe and to the United States. In 1814 Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, a minister from Connecticut who wanted to teach his nine-year-old, hearing-impaired neighbor to communicate, went to France to train under Épée's successor, Abbé Sicard. Three years later, Gallaudet established the American School for the Deaf in his hometown of Hartford, Connecticut. Students from across the United States attended, and just as at Épée's school, they brought signs they used to communicate with at home. American Sign Language became a combination of these signs and those from French Sign Language.

Thanks to the development of formal sign languages, people with hearing impairment can access spoken language in all its variety. The world's many modern signing systems have different rules for pronunciation, word order, and grammar. New visual languages can even express regional accents to reflect the complexity and richness of local speech.

—Inés Antón Dayas

"LEONARDO'S HORSE," BASED ON SKETCHES BY LEONARDO DA VINCI, WAS CAST IN BRONZE BY NINA AKAMU IN THE 1990S. STANDING 24 FEET HIGH, IT IS ON DISPLAY AT THE SAN SIRO HIPPODROME, MILAN, ITALY.

LA MONACA DAVIDE/AGF/AGE FOTOSTOCK

CENTURIES IN THE MAKING

LEONARDO'S LAST MASTERPIECE

At the request of Ludovico Sforza, the future Duke of Milan, in 1482 Leonardo da Vinci began working on a sculpture that would be the largest equestrian statue in the world. Leonardo made a clay model that stood 24 feet high and planned to cast it in bronze. In 1499, however, war engulfed Milan, and the clay horse was destroyed. Leonardo's drawings and plans survived, but the artist died before "Il Gran Cavallo" could be built. Roughly five hundred years later, inspired by a 1977 *National Geographic* article, "The Horse That Never Was," American art patron Charles C. Dent made it his life's work to erect the statue. Following Dent's death in 1994, sculptor Nina Akamu carried out Leonardo's plans and in 1999 completed a full-size bronze sculpture of the horse (left), which now stands in Milan, Italy. Five replicas of this version are also on display in museums worldwide.

STUDIES OF HORSES DRAWN BY LEONARDO DA VINCI CIRCA 1490, WHEN HE WAS PLANNING "IL GRAN CAVALLO." COLLECTION OF THE ROYAL LIBRARY, WINDSOR CASTLE, WINDSOR, ENGLAND

PRINT COLLECTOR/ALBUM

INVESTIGATION: ÖTZI

In 1991 the body of a murdered man was discovered high in the Alps. Killed more than 5,000 years ago, studies of the Iceman haven't revealed who did it, but they have given rich insights into life in the Copper Age.

ROSA M. TRISTÁN

FROZEN IN TIME
The glacier of Hauslabjoch spans the Ötztal Alps where Ötzi's body was discovered in 1991. Using his mummified remains, Dutch artists Alfons and Adrie Kennis created a 3D model of him (left), housed at the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology in Bolzano, Italy.

BACKGROUND: KENNETH GARRETT. MODEL: ROBERT CLARK/GETTY IMAGES

Picture the scene: It's early summer in the Alps. A bearded, middle-aged man hikes up a glacier, some 10,500 feet above sea level, close to the modern border between Austria and Italy. He is dressed practically to protect him from the cold and wet conditions in the mountains: warm trousers and a long cape, snowshoes, and a furry cap. The man's right hand has a deep cut from a recent skirmish that is just beginning to heal. He stops to rest and eat. He thinks he's found safety here, but he's wrong.

The bearded man is unaware he is being followed. An enemy stands undetected a few feet away. Target in sight, he nocks an arrow, carefully aims, and fires. It is an excellent shot, piercing him in the back. The man falls to the ground and dies. His possessions lie scattered around him; his attacker does not take them, not even a valuable copper ax. The body will stay undisturbed on this glacier for thousands of years, keeping the secrets of his life and death silent in the snow.

A Murder Inquiry

The bearded man rocketed to international fame after his body was discovered by two mountaineers on an Italian glacier in September 1991. Nicknamed Ötzi—for the region of the Alps where he died— scholars have been piecing together his story for almost three decades, looking for clues about not only his death but also his life.

Ötzi lived during the Chalcolithic, or Copper Age, some 5,300 years ago, a time that just precedes the building of the oldest part of Stonehenge in England. Since his discovery, Ötzi has become one of the most

RESTING PLACE
The spot in Italy where Ötzi's body emerged from the ice is a stone's throw from the border with Austria. A stone monument (below) marks the spot where he was found.

LEON WERDINGER/A..AMY/AC

studied corpses in history. Because his body was so well preserved, scientists have learned much from it about health, diet, disease, and genetics during the Copper Age.

A remarkable amount about the Iceman's body has been revealed because of advances in science. Samples of his DNA were taken from his pelvic bone in 2008, and his genome was sequenced. His genetic heritage was a common one for the period, born out of the great Neolithic migration that occurred from the Near East to Europe about 8,000 years ago. As far as scientists can tell, the descendants of such people long ago died out in mainland Europe. However, Ötzi still has living relatives: The DNA of many people on the Mediterranean islands of Corsica and Sardinia closely matches his.

Living until 46, Ötzi was quite advanced in years for the time. He weighed just 110 pounds and stood around five feet three inches tall (his mummified body is shorter, as it shrank during the five millennia it spent frozen in ice). Tattoos covered parts of his body. Study of his tool kit and weapons reveals he was right-handed. He had brown eyes and shoulder-length dark brown hair. He had all of his teeth and very little body fat.

The studies have also revealed much about his health. In common with many fellow Europeans at the time, who had only recently changed to farming livestock, Ötzi was likely lactose intolerant and had a genetic predisposition to heart disease, which would have been exacerbated by a diet of fatty meat. The presence of the bacteria *Borrelia burgdorferi* in his blood shows that he suffered from Lyme disease, contracted through being bitten by an infected tick. He also suffered from gum disease, gallstones, and arthritis.

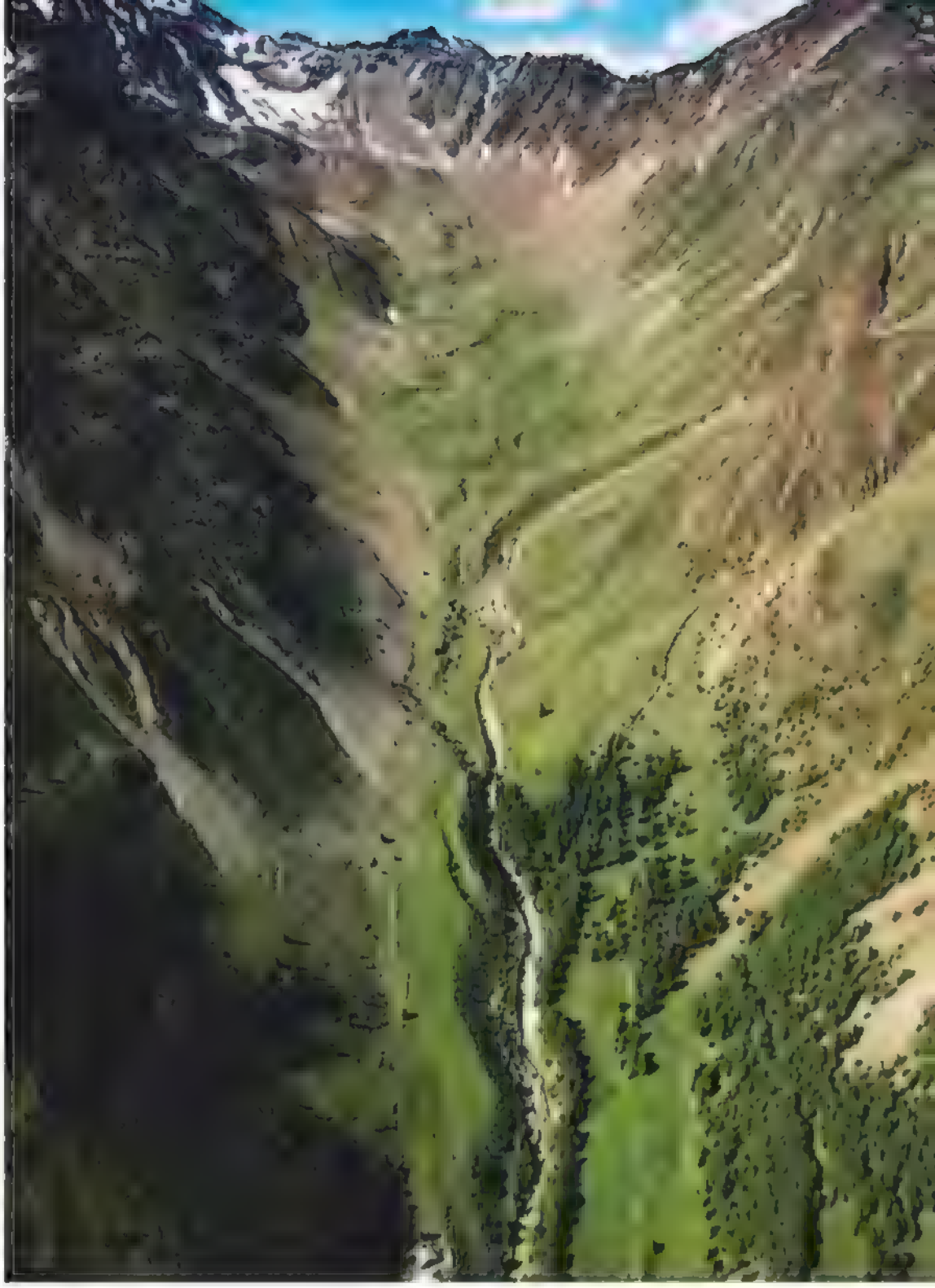
Ötzi's possessions and clothes were also well preserved by the frigid environment on the glacier. Many of these items were made of materials that are unlikely to survive in temperate conditions, so these rare artifacts yielded new insights into Copper Age culture and technology.

Ongoing Inquiries

Despite the huge strides in fleshing out Ötzi's life, researchers hope that more discoveries about him lie ahead. After the real circumstances of Ötzi's death came to light in 2001, scholars began asking more questions about the society in which the Iceman lived. How common was physical violence and murder in this part of the Alps more than 5,000 years ago?

Scholars are also investigating more about Ötzi himself. His possessions may indicate what his occupation and social status were. Of particular interest is where Ötzi and his people originated and lived. The Alps may have been where he died, but archaeologists are still exploring if that region is where he lived most of his life.

The following sections of this article will explore in more detail what is known of the man whose death more than 5,000 years ago has captured the imagination of the modern era: the discovery of his body; the clues to his murder; his tools and weapons; his health; his origins; and the theories about his last days on Earth.



HOME, SWEET HOME
The green valley and high peaks of the Alpine region of Ötztal (above) are where Ötzi died and most probably lived.

RIEDMILLER/CARO PHOTO/CORDON PRESS

SCIENCE WRITER ROSA M. TRISTÁN IS AUTHOR OF A BOOK ON THE UNESCO SITE OF ATAPUERCA IN SPAIN, WHERE EUROPE'S EARLIEST HUMAN REMAINS HAVE BEEN FOUND.

MACABRE MOUNTAIN FIND

SCENE OF THE CRIME

On September 19, 1991, while descending the Finailspitze peak in the Ötztal Alps, German mountaineers Erika and Helmut Simon stumbled across a human body protruding from the ice near the Austro-Italian border. They assumed it must be the remains of a mountaineer. Believing the spot to lie just within Austria, the Simons alerted the Austrian authorities, who also believed the body to be that of a disappeared mountaineer. In the course of freeing the corpse from the ice, a bone in the upper left arm was accidentally broken. The body was then transported by helicopter to the Austrian city of Innsbruck, where an autopsy was conducted.

AUTHORITIES observed the area where the man was found and noticed a number of ancient-looking items scattered around the scene. They deduced that this death was no recent Alpine accident, but something much older. Archaeologists, including Konrad Spindler of the University of Innsbruck, were called in. Spindler's team carried out the first studies of the man's body and determined that it was thousands of years old. The Iceman's age and his story generated huge public interest, and the press reported every detail. They even gave him a nickname: Ötzi, for the Ötztal range where he was found. A survey concluded that Ötzi had been found on the Italian side of the border, so in 1998 his body was transferred to the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology in Bolzano, Italy, where it remains today. ■

EMBEDDED IN ICE

After the body was found in September 1991, authorities wanted to move it before it attracted too much attention among the mountaineering community. Two South Tyrolian mountaineers, Hans Kammerlander (left) and Reinhold Messner (right), were able to view the site two days after discovery. Messner was one of the first to suspect that the body was much older than initially thought.

PAUL HANNY/GAMMA-RAPHO/GETTY IMAGES

FOUL PLAY

CAUSE OF DEATH

The circumstances of Ötzi's death were not immediately obvious to researchers. In 2001 Paul Gostner, a chief radiologist at the general hospital of Bolzano, made the startling discovery that earlier x-rays had not picked up: a small wound in the upper left back. The injury showed no outward signs of healing, which meant Ötzi sustained it around the time he died. Confirming the cause of death, subsequent scans revealed an arrowhead buried in his back. Science had uncovered a murder.

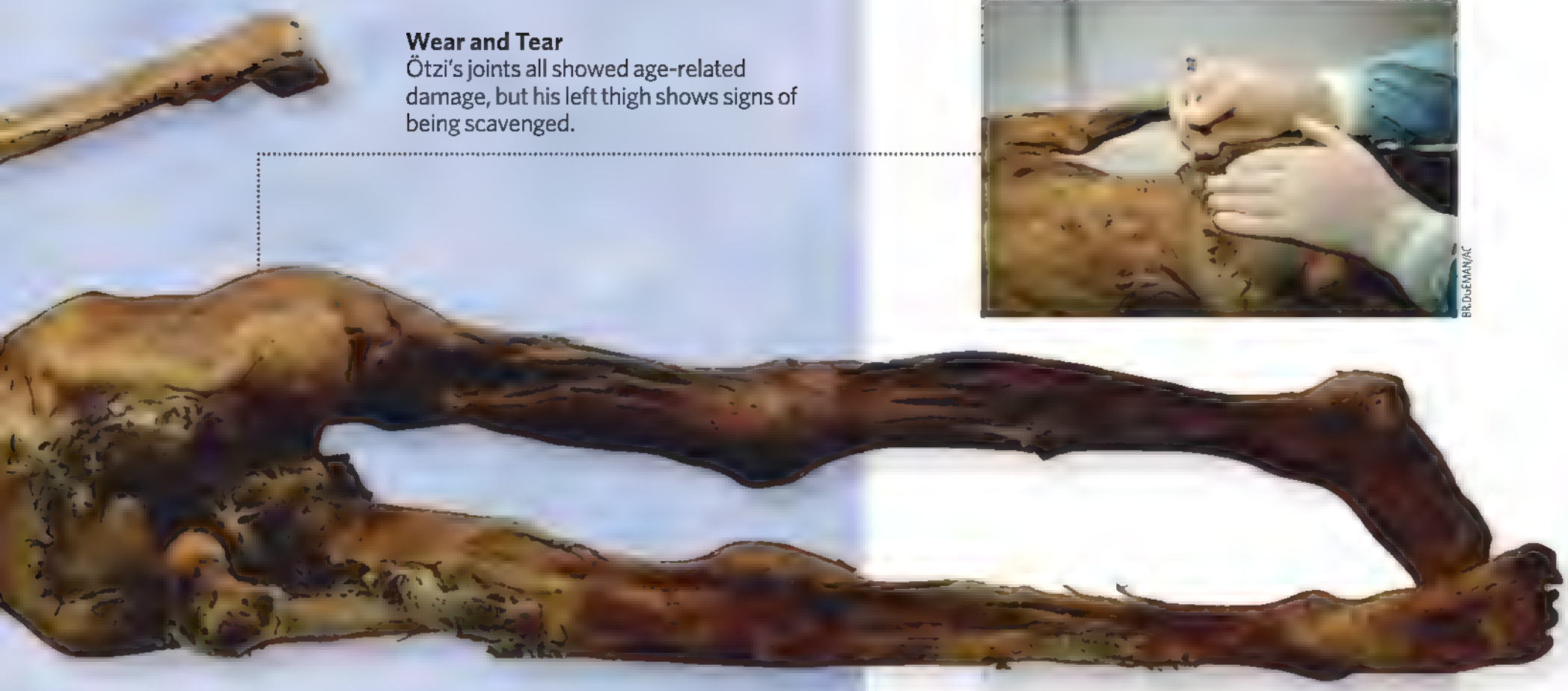
FORENSIC EXPERTS believe that the arrow entered his back, broke through the shoulder blade, severed the subclavian artery, and came to rest an inch from his lung. The Iceman would likely have experienced paralysis in his left shoulder and fallen to the snow in shock. Death from rapid blood loss would have occurred in a matter of minutes. The skull also bears evidence of injury, which could have been sustained when Ötzi fell or if his attacker struck him in the head.

ÖTZI'S BODY was found lying face down with the left arm stretched diagonally across the upper chest, a position that supported this theory of his death. It is likely he fell forward, which pinned his left arm under him. After the arrow found its mark, someone (perhaps his attacker or perhaps even Ötzi himself) tried to remove the arrow but broke the shaft, which left the arrowhead in the body. Ötzi perished in the snow—either from a final, fatal blow to the head or from exsanguination—and lay in this position until he was found more than 5,000 years later. ■

FATAL FALL
Gregory A. Harlin's watercolor for the National Geographic Society imagines Ötzi's final moments on the Alpine glacier.

TOP: WOLFGANG NEEB/AGE FOTOSTOCK **ILLUSTRATION:** GREGORY A. HARLIN/NGS

Wear and Tear
Ötzi's joints all showed age-related damage, but his left thigh shows signs of being scavenged.



BRUCE SMAN/AC

COLD STORAGE

Since 1998 Ötzi has been housed at the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology in Bolzano, Italy, in a specially constructed cold chamber (below) maintained at 21°F (-6°C) and 99 percent humidity to re-create conditions from the glacier. Visitors to the museum can see him and his chamber through a small observational window. Keeping his body below freezing has allowed many different scientific examinations. Researchers have carefully studied Ötzi's hair, his skeleton, wear patterns on his teeth, parasitic eggs in his gut, numerous tattoos on his skin, the blood that ran in his veins, and even his last meal.

SOUTH TYROL MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY/AUGUSTIN OCHSENRE TER

DEAD MAN'S POSSESSIONS

THE THINGS HE CARRIED

The objects found scattered near the body presented researchers with new clues about life in the Copper Age. His combination of weapons and tools, as well as the warm, strong clothing he wore, suggests he was headed on a long journey. Many objects were very worn with use, but one item was still being fashioned, which perhaps suggests he did not have much time to prepare for his journey. Some of the items are unique. His copper ax is the only one of its kind that has ever been found, and strongly suggests he enjoyed high status. Fixed to the haft with birch tar and leather straps, the copper blade was mined in central Italy. Scholars believe it would have been used to fell small trees and for combat.

TWELVE ARROW SHAFTS were found in his deerskin quiver, two of them with flint arrowheads. He was also carrying a long yew shaft, which appeared to be an unfinished bow. Two birch-bark containers were found, one with signs of charring and fragments of charcoal and leaves. This container suggests that Ötzi carried embers in order to quickly start fires.

ÖTZI'S ATTIRE was designed for warmth and dryness. His hat was made of bearskin and his cloak of goat and sheep hides. His footwear is the world's oldest known pair of snowshoes, made of deerskin stretched around a webbed frame of tree bark that could be packed with dried grass. If the grass became wet, then he could replace it with new, dry material. ■

ÖTZI'S OBJECTS
1. Trousers fragment **2.** A cord and small stone tools **3.** Birch-bark vessel **4.** Bearskin hat
5. Shoe **6.** Deerskin quiver and arrows
7. Copper ax **8.** Two flint arrowheads

1, 2, AND 3: W. NEEB/BRIDGEMAN/AC.. **4 AND 5:** ROBERT CLARK/GETTY IMAGES. **6:** KENNETH GARRETT/GETTY IMAGES. **7 AND 8:** ROBERT CLARK/GETTY IMAGES

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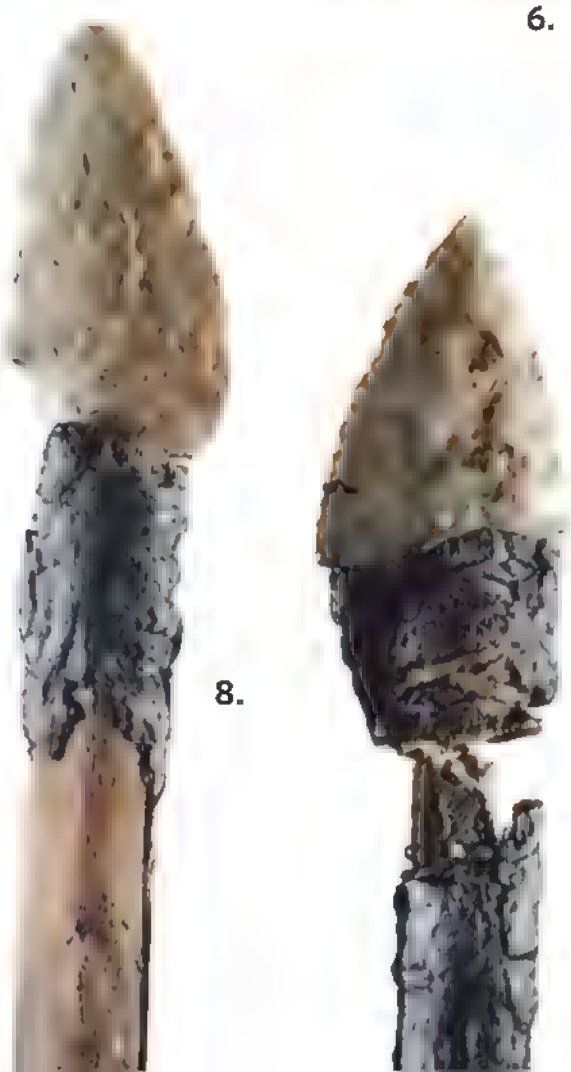


8.

COPPER AGE MEDICINE

THE VICTIM'S CONDITION

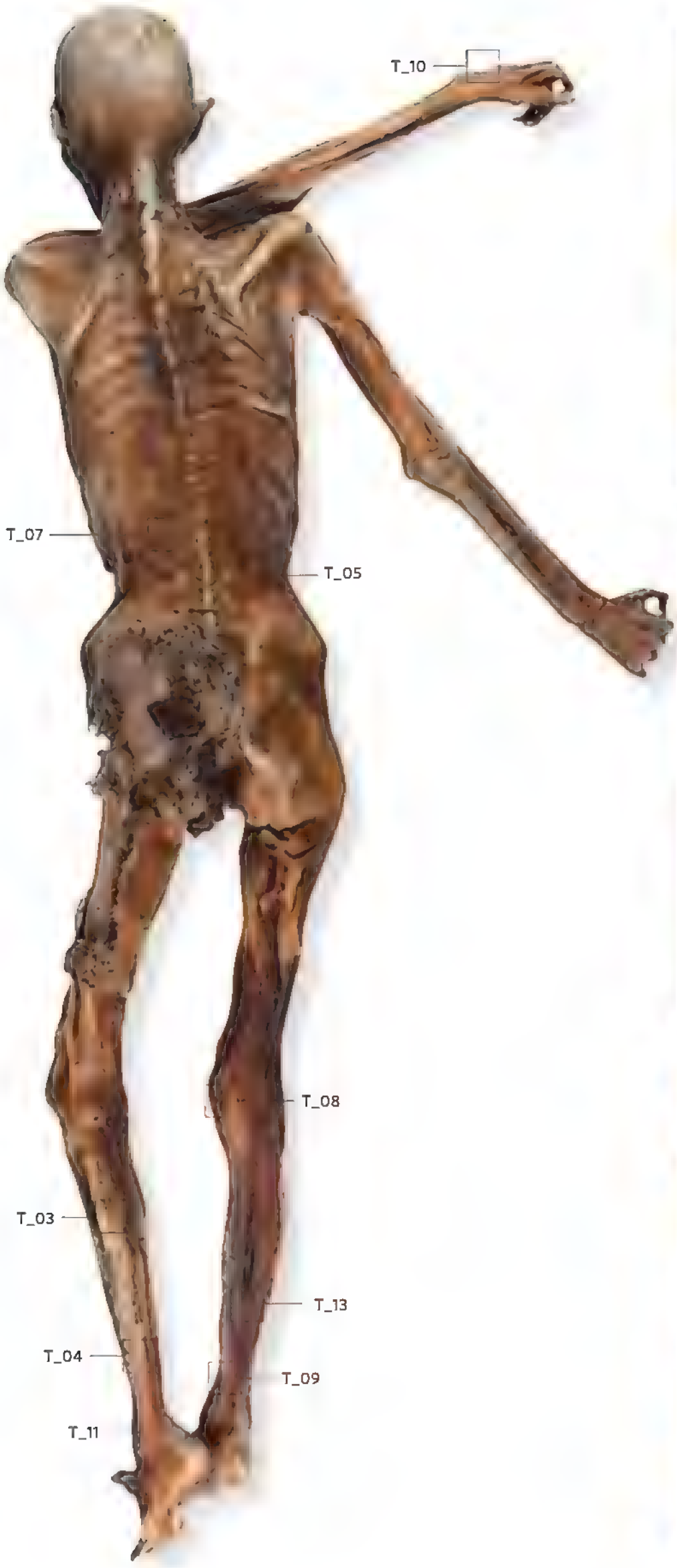
Aside from the fatal injuries on Ötzi's body, he appeared to be in good health before he died. Living until his mid-40s, he had reached a relatively advanced age for his time, and his body bore the signs of a lifetime of medical care.

THE ICEMAN'S JOINTS show that he likely suffered from arthritis and back pain. Scholars found tattoos on Ötzi's skin, clustered in areas where he might have experienced symptoms. In 2015 new scans of the body mapped 61 tattoos across Ötzi's body. Nearly all of them have been found on, or near, the joints or the lower back. The tattoos were drawn by making small cuts in the skin and injecting charcoal for the design. Some studies have found that the tattoos were related to an early form of acupuncture. Most are groups of horizontal or vertical lines, but there are also two crosses. Two groups of lines appear on the chest, perhaps in an attempt to alleviate his cardiac condition (arteriosclerosis).

ÖTZI'S BODY and analysis of his belongings also yielded medical insights. Among the objects found near his body was a fungus, *Fomitopsis betulina,* known for its antibacterial properties. Traces of bracken fern were also found in his stomach, which was used to treat intestinal parasites. All of the evidence supports the notion that medical care was an important part of the Iceman's culture. ■

ANCIENT INK
For many years, only about 30 tattoos had been identified on Ötzi's body, but in 2015 this figure doubled after multispectral photography revealed many more. The two images (right) indicate their positions on the mummy.

SOUTH TYROL MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY/EURAC/SAMADELLI



KENNETH GARRETT/GETTY IMAGES

ROBERT CLARK/GETTY IMAGES

ROBERT CLARK/GETTY IMAGES

COPPER AGE CLUES

ÖTZI'S ORIGINS

Analysis of Ötzi's bones reveals he spent one to two months a year in the mountains. Earth scientist Wolfgang Müller suggested that this finding is consistent with working as a farmer and herder, growing crops in the valleys, and spending the summer months in the Alps with flocks. Researcher Thomas Loy argued that the same evidence supports the case that Ötzi was a specialist mountain hunter, who became involved in a deadly turf war with other hunters.

SCIENTISTS HAVE FOUND other clues that point to his possible origins. The grains he was carrying were farmed, suggesting he lived in a farming community. The central Italian copper in his ax has led some researchers to suggest he was from farther south, but he could have acquired such an object through trade. Analysis of his bone revealed isotopic signatures consistent with the Alpine valleys, suggesting Ötzi was born and raised in the shadow of the mountains where he died. ■

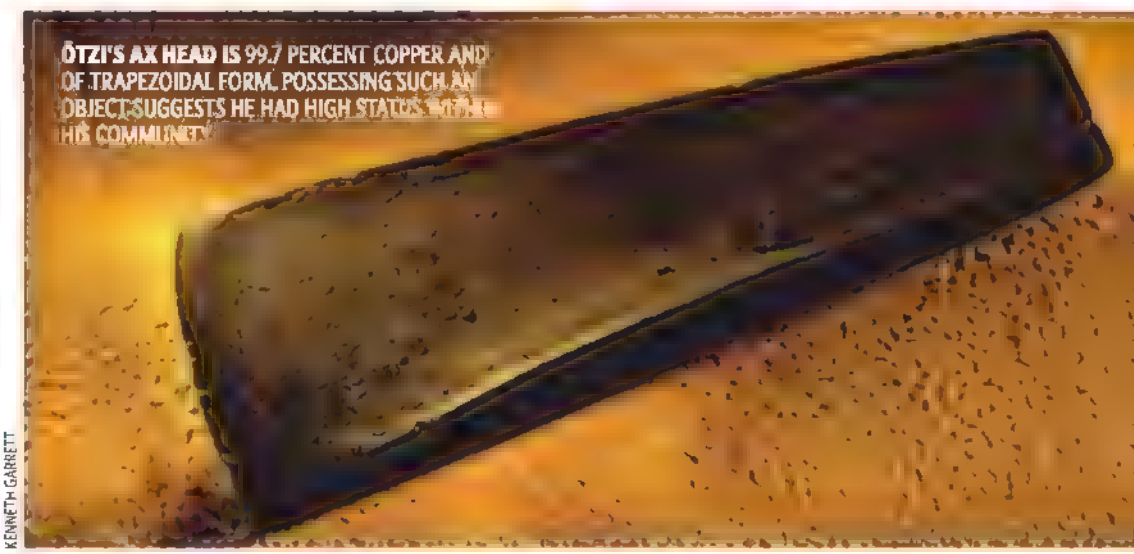
HIGH AND LOW

The valley floor spreads beneath the Gaislachkogel in Austria's Ötztal Alps. For thousands of years farming had slowly spread through these valleys. By Ötzi's lifetime in the Copper Age, some communities had already become well established here, farming throughout the year, and herding in the high Alpine pastures in the summer.

WESTEND61 /AGE FOTOSTOCK

STATUS SYMBOLS
A stela from the Copper Age (left) from Italy is decorated with precise geometric designs and images of tools and weapons, including axes.

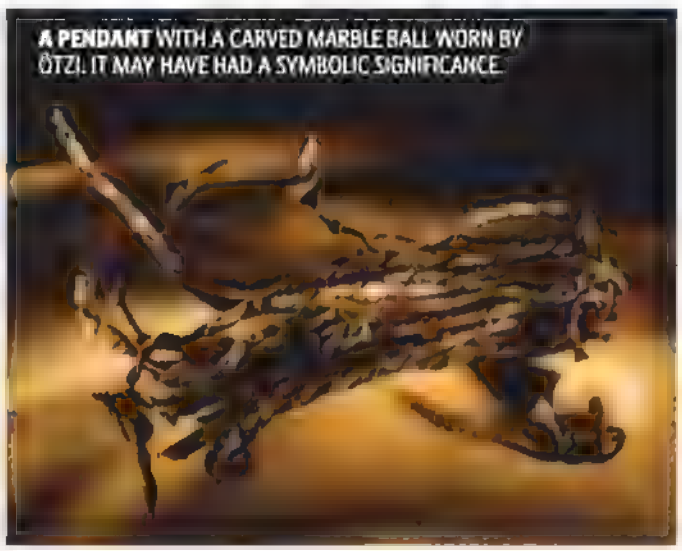
KENNETH GARRETT/GETTY IMAGES


ÖTZI'S AX HEAD IS 99.7 PERCENT COPPER AND OF TRAPEZOIDAL FORM. POSSESSING SUCH AN OBJECT SUGGESTS HE HAD HIGH STATUS WITHIN HIS COMMUNITY

KENNETH GARRETT

THE COPPER AGE

The period when Ötzi lived is now known by historians as the Copper Age, which lasted through the fourth and third millennia B.C. Total dependence on stone tools was ending. Although the techniques to make bronze would not be widespread until the end of this period, farmers were transitioning to more sophisticated metalworking and making copper implements for the first time. Ötzi owned a pure copper ax, a very valuable tool for its time. The period saw refinement in ceramic-making techniques, and increased agricultural productivity thanks to the plow.



A PENDANT WITH A CARVED MARBLE BALL WORN BY ÖTZI. IT MAY HAVE HAD A SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE.

KENNETH GARRETT/GETTY IMAGES

THE MURDER MYSTERY

ÖTZI'S LAST HOURS

Although historians now know an arrow brought about Ötzi's death, they are still putting together what preceded the attack. In 2003 DNA research carried out by Australian molecular archaeologist Tom Loy provided some valuable clues: Analysis of his clothing showed evidence of blood from four other individuals, leading researchers to think he could have been in a fight a day or two before his death. His right hand had one deep cut, probably caused by contact with a pointed, sharp object. The skin had started to heal, which means the wound must have been sustained about two days before he died.

THESE CLUES have allowed researchers to piece together a theory of the murder: Ötzi had a confrontation with one or several men and climbed the mountain to flee from his enemies. Believing himself to be safe, he stopped near a glacier and lit a fire to cook a meal of red deer and ibex. Soon after he finished eating, the Iceman was ambushed and killed.

SCIENCE HAS revealed the murder method but not the motive. The injuries on Ötzi's body do not give much indication as to why someone wanted him dead. Theft seems unlikely as a valuable copper ax and other weapons were left behind. Some theorize that Ötzi had defeated an enemy in the skirmish a few days before his death. The loser, perhaps humiliated by the loss, followed Ötzi up the mountain to take revenge. As many answers as Ötzi's death has provided, this case may remain unsolved forever. ■

ANCIENT AMBUSH

A modern painting depicts several assailants attacking Ötzi from behind, one theory of his murder. After the arrow has struck, the Iceman realizes that he has been shot. A moment later, stricken with shock, he will pitch forward and fall, never to rise again.

SPL/AGE FOTOSTOCK

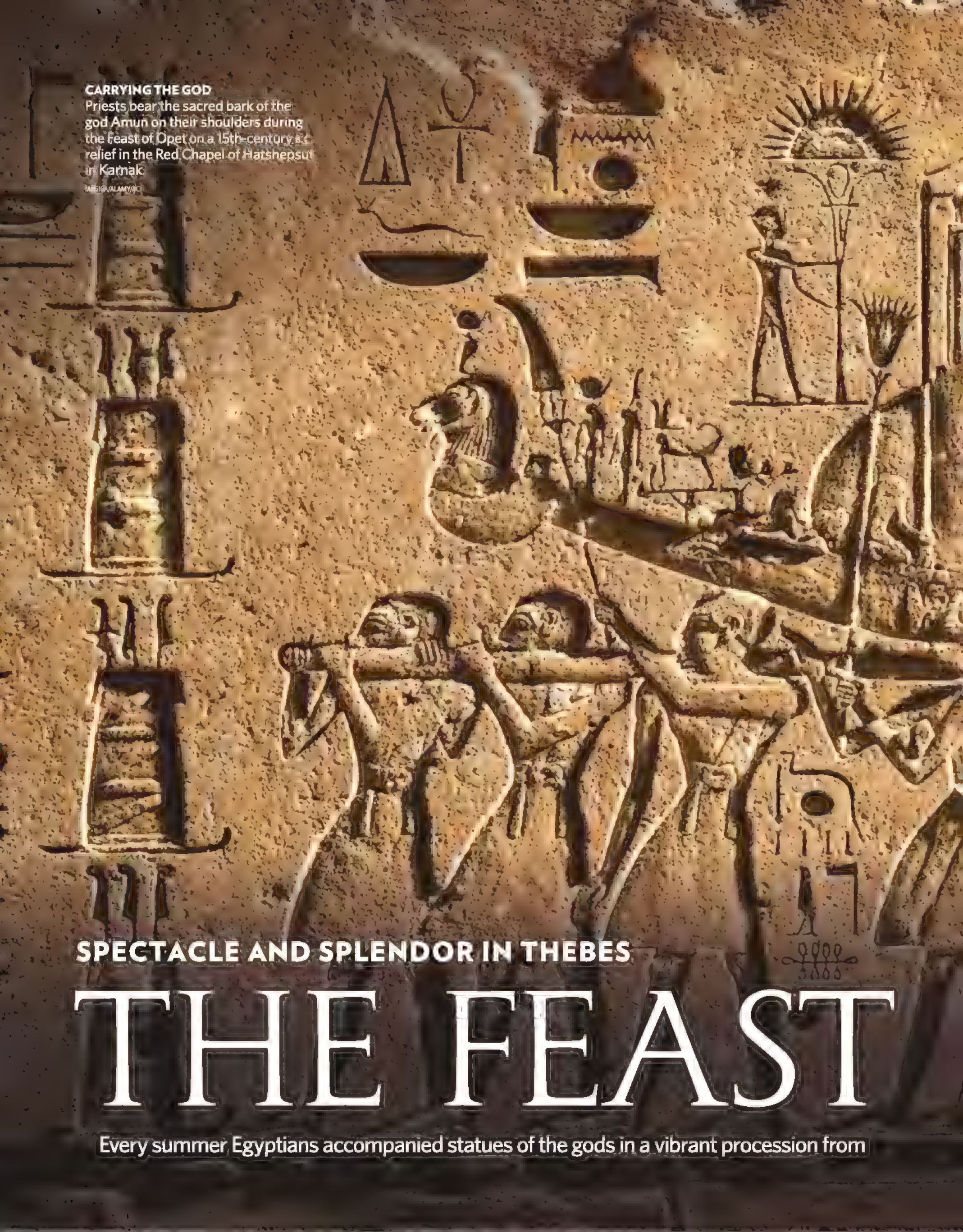
ROBERT CLARK/GETTY IMAGES

LAST SUPPER
Scientists thought Ötzi was vegetarian until a 2018 study of his stomach contents (right) revealed a belly full of meat as well as traces of fern. The plant may have wrapped his food or may have been ingested for medicinal purposes.

MURDER WEAPON

The stone arrowhead that struck Ötzi was first spotted in his body in 2001, 10 years after the body was discovered. Ötzi's quiver contained arrowheads, but they were distinct from the one that killed him. Made of flint from an area about 30 miles away, Ötzi's arrowheads were of better quality than those of his attacker. Arrowheads were regarded as valuable objects, which makes it likely that the murderer tried to retrieve it from Ötzi's body after his death. It appears that the shaft broke and the arrowhead stayed in the body, where it would tell its grisly tale more than 5,000 years later.

X-RAY OF ÖTZI'S TORSO, SHOWING THE ENTRY POINT OF THE FATAL ARROW (CIRCLED)
R. EDMEIER/CARO PHOTO/CORDON PRESS



CARRYING THE GOD
Priests bear the sacred bark of the god Amun on their shoulders during the Feast of Opet on a 15th-century B.C. relief in the Red Chapel of Hatshepsut in Karnak.

MAGIC/ALAMY/IC

SPECTACLE AND SPLENDOR IN THEBES

THE FEAST

Every summer Egyptians accompanied statues of the gods in a vibrant procession from

MARINA ESCOLANO-POVEDA

OF OPET

Karnak to Luxor in a carefully stage-managed display of royal power.

PARADE ROUTE

In the city of Thebes (above), the temples of Karnak to the north and Luxor to the south were the setting for the annual Feast of Opet.

3D 4D NEWS

A HIGH PRIEST OF THEBES HOLDS FIGURES OF AMUN, MUT, AND KHONS. 12TH CENTURY B.C. MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES, CAIRO

ARALDO DE LUCA

Every year ancient Egyptians eagerly anticipated the coming of Akhet, the flooding season. Meaning "inundation," Akhet was the all-important time when the Nile's floodwaters replenished the land and restored Egypt's fertility. This time of joyous renewal was also when ancient Egypt held one of its most spectacular and most mysterious festivals: the Feast of Opet.

Opet was celebrated in the city of Thebes, and the centerpiece of the festival was a grand procession from Karnak to Luxor. In these processions, statues of the city's most sacred gods—Amun-Re, supreme god, his wife, Mut, and his son, Khons—were placed in special barks and were then borne from one temple to the other.

Opet's formal name is *heb nefer en Ipet,* which translates to "beautiful feast of Opet." The word *opet* or *ipet* is believed to have referred to the inner sanctuary of the Temple of Luxor. So important was this festive event that the second month of Akhet, when the feast typically occurred, was named after it: *pa-en-ipet,* the [month] of Opet. During the reign of Thutmose III (1458–1426 B.C.), the festival lasted for 11 days. By the start of the rule of Ramses III in 1187 B.C., it had expanded to 24 days; by his death in 1156 B.C., it had stretched to 27.

A New Kingdom Rises

The beautiful feast became a major celebration in the early New Kingdom (ca 1539–1075 B.C.) when the 18th dynasty came to power, after driving out the Hyksos invaders who had occupied the northern part of the Nile Valley for 200 years. Egypt's new rulers wasted no time in making its capital city Thebes a vast ceremonial stage to celebrate the consolidation of power, and the Opet festival took center stage.

Egypt displayed its greatness with impressive feats of engineering in the expansion of its two great temple complexes at Karnak and Luxor on the eastern bank of the Nile. One of the early pharaohs of the 18th dynasty, Thutmose I expanded the temple of Amun-Re at

JOURNEY'S BEGINNING

During Opet the sacred barks with the statues of Amun, Mut, and Khons set off from the Temple of Amun-Re at Karnak on the eastern side of the Nile.

GÜNTER GRÄFENHAIN/FOTOTECA 9X12

THE RECONSTRUCTED RED CHAPEL OF QUEEN HATSHEPSUT AT KARNAK. THE ORIGINAL STRUCTURE CONTAINS THE EARLIEST DEPICTIONS OF THE FEAST OF OPET.

MAGICA/ALAMY/AC

A Sacred Boathouse

THE OLDEST evidence of the Opet festival dates from the reign of Hatshepsut and consists of carvings on the south side of the Red Chapel at Karnak. Made of blocks of red quartzite and gray diorite, the chapel housed the sacred bark of Amun when not in use for Opet or other festivals.

FOLLOWING THE QUEEN'S DEATH, her chapel was broken up, and parts of it used to fill in the third pylon of Karnak, built by Amenhotep III. Following an earthquake in the 19th century, the blocks were rediscovered. After painstaking research, and significantly aided by piecing together the scenes depicting the Feast of Opet, researchers were able to reconstruct the chapel. Its dimensions have also helped historians estimate the size of the bark that it housed.

STONE SPECTACLE

Drawn on a limestone fragment, this 13th-century B.C. sketch (below) shows Amun's bark borne by priests. Egyptian Museum and Papyrus Collection, Berlin

M. BÜSING/RMN-GRAND PALAIS

Karnak. His successors continued improvements to the temple's ceremonial spaces, constructing processional avenues, courts, and pylons. Karnak grew to become one of the largest religious complexes, measuring nearly two square miles.

Famous for its soaring columns and statues of Ramses II, the impressive Luxor Temple was built between and during the reigns of Amenhotep III and Ramses II, circa 1400 to 1200 B.C. Archaeologists believe a smaller temple stood there originally before Amenhotep III, Tutankhamun, and Ramses II enlarged the complex and added a large court, numerous halls, a majestic colonnade, a pylon, and obelisks.

The processional route between the temples varied with time, sometimes traveling by foot along the Avenue of Sphinxes, a road nearly two miles long and lined with statues of the mythical beasts. At other times, the sacred statue traveled from Karnak to Luxor in a specially made bark, known in Egyptian as the *Userhat-Amun* ("mighty of prow is Amun"). This vessel was built of Lebanon cedar covered with gold. Its prow and stern were decorated with a ram's head, sacred to the god.

Evidence in Pictures

Most of what is known about the festival is iconographic and comes from artwork found at the temple precinct of Amun-Re at Karnak, the Temple of Luxor; and the mortuary temple of Ramses III at Medinet Habu.

The earliest evidence comes from the Red Chapel of Queen Hatshepsut (reigned 1479–1458 B.C.). During her reign, only Amun-Re traveled from Karnak to Luxor. The reliefs from the Red Chapel depict the god's shrine being carried by priests. Initially, the journey was made on foot, stopping at six altars constructed by Hatshepsut along the Avenue of Sphinxes that ran between the two temples. The reliefs then show both statue and the priests returning downstream to Karnak by boat.

THE CELEBRATION BEGINS
This 20th-century illustration by American artist Balage Balogh re-creates the vibrancy and excitement as the three sacred barks leave Karnak for Luxor.

BALAGE BALOGH/RMN-GRAND PALAIS

PRIESTS BEAR THE SACRED BARKS OF OPET IN A RELIEF ON THE 12TH-CENTURY B.C. MORTUARY TEMPLE OF RAMSES III, MEDINET HABU, THEBES.
DEA/ALBUM

The reliefs make a great effort to depict the grand spectacle: Many priests support the barks and statues, while a crowd makes a joyous din with sistrum rattles. The gods' barks were brought alongside the jetty at the Temple of Luxor and were carried on the shoulders of the priests to the sacred precinct. A series of ceremonies were conducted in the outer courts, after which the barks were taken into the inner sanctuary, accompanied solely by high-ranking priests and the pharaoh. Once the ceremonies were completed, the barks returned downstream to Karnak.

Mysteries of Opet

Even though the surviving reliefs provide considerable information about the processions, they offer no indication of the exact purpose of the rituals performed at Luxor. Despite the conspicuousness and majesty of Opet in artworks, no text describing the event survives. Neither have traces of a processional bark from the festival ever been found.

One popular theory is that the Opet rites confirmed the monarch's possession of the royal *ka*. This life force inhabited the bodies of all legitimate pharaohs of Egypt and passed from the old to the new on the latter's death. An annual confirmation of such a process would help bolster the king's authority.

Horemheb, the last pharaoh of the 18th dynasty, had been a military commander during the reign of Tutankhamun, and had probably been his official heir despite not being a blood relative. Horemheb restored order to Egypt after the chaotic rule of Akhenaten, who upended Egypt's religious and civic order. Horemheb's coronation took place during Opet, a return to Egyptian tradition that may have granted him legitimacy in the eyes of the people and the gods. If the ceremony identified him as the son of Amun-Re, then his claim to the throne would be strengthened even though he was no blood relation to the previous rulers.

Scholars also believe that the festival represented the renewal of the gods' divine life force. The journey from Karnak to the temple in Luxor restored the power of Amun-Re and his family, strengthening them and the land of Egypt as well.

The Luxor reliefs show the evolution of the celebration and how it changed over time. The colonnade, added during the time of Tutankhamun's reign, has impressively detailed reliefs that give insights into Opet rituals and how they changed from the time of Hatshepsut. The artworks reveal that Amun-Re has been joined by his consort, Mut, and their son, Khons, in the procession. Some reliefs even show the ruling pharaoh as part of the group.

Changes in the route can be seen in the artwork at Luxor. The statues of the gods traveled in both directions along the Nile rather than along the Avenue of Sphinxes. During the outward trip south, against the flow of the river, the bark was pulled by other boats and by people on the riverbanks. High-ranking officials who took part regarded rowing the boats as a great honor worthy of being recorded in their life stories. During the journeys along the river, the barks were escorted from the shore by soldiers, dancers, and bearers of offerings, among them fattened oxen that were to be sacrificed.

GODHEAD
A 12th-century B.C. statue of a ram's head, sacred to Amun-Re, was dedicated to him in Karnak, in memory of Amenhotep I. Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna

ERICH LESSING/ALBUM

FERRIES OF THE GODS

A 19TH-CENTURY illustration of a bark of Amun (above) contains elements that are frequently found in period representations of the vessels used in Opet. ① The processional bark of Amun-Re was placed on ② a large river barge for the journey between Luxor and Karnak along the Nile. The barge is decorated at the prow and at the stern with ③ rams' heads, sacred symbols of Amun-Re. ④ A pharaoh wears ⑤ a ceremonial *khepresh* crown topped by the vulture goddess Nekhbet. Between the pharaoh and the shrine is ⑥ a smaller bark borne by the jackal-headed souls of Nekhen, who represent the living king's deceased ancestors and reinforce his legitimacy. At the back of the boat are ⑦ two more sacred barks with oars.

TOP: THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY. BOTTOM: WERNER FORMAN/GTRES

A BRONZE BARK FROM THE FOURTH CENTURY B.C. BEARS A SHRINE AND RESTS ON THE CROCODILE DEITY SOBEK, WHO IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE NILE. CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN MUSEUM, LISBON

Joyous Songs of Opet

THE PROCESSION OF AMUN-RE at Opet was greeted with an outpouring of music. Female participants wore *menats*, necklaces with heavy beads that acted as percussion. A relief (left) in Hatshepsut's Red Chapel at Karnak reveals the carnival atmosphere of Opet. Women shake sistrum rattles in the lower part; above, acrobats tumble while a musician strums on a harp.

THE COLONNADE HALL at the Temple of Luxor features three of the songs sung at Opet. One reads: "Recitation: Hail, Amun-Re, primeval one of the Two Lands, foremost one of Karnak, in your glorious appearance amidst your [riverine] fleet, on your beautiful Festival of Opet, may you be pleased with it."

BRIDGEMAN/ACI

The reliefs at Luxor and other sites give insight into the careful management of the event, which helped reinforce religious and royal power while harnessing optimism at the dawn of the new year and a new agricultural cycle. Three songs inscribed in hieroglyphics at Luxor reveal the words chanted by priests and priestesses. These songs seem to be very ancient since fragments are found on monuments dating from the Old Kingdom. The general population also joined in the festival and accompanied the procession.

A Popular Feast

If the noisy, festive aspect of Opet provided a contrast to the priestly rituals, the festival's emphasis on food was also appreciated by the populace. Reliefs at both Karnak and Luxor temples show the details of Opet feasting. On one panel at the Temple of Luxor, Amenhotep III is depicted presenting the bounty for the festival: Bread, fruit, honey, game, and other delicacies are depicted in abundance.

Opet's fusion of majesty and popular merrymaking helped forge a powerful bond between the people and their pharaoh during the New Kingdom. Centuries later, after Alexander the Great's conquest of Egypt in 332 B.C., the conqueror's agents in Thebes observed how the festival's symbolic power could be adapted to confer divine legitimacy upon Alexander's control of the region. Alexander built his own chapel in the Temple of Luxor and decorated the walls with his likeness in the presence of Amun-Re.

Opet celebrations are believed to have continued until Roman times. The feast and its divine parade finally fell out of favor after the rise of Christianity in Egypt when the old gods and the old ways were cast aside.

Opet was a feast of sound as well as sight, a cacophony of cheers, songs, and the din of sistrum rattles.

GRECO-ROMAN BRONZE SISTRUM. MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES, CAIRO

BRIDGEMAN/ACI

EGYPTOLOGIST **MARINA ESCOLANO-POVEDA** IS A MEMBER OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION AT THE MUT TEMPLE AT KARNAK.

JOURNEY'S END

At Luxor, the ceremonial barks would pass along the Processional Colonnade of Amenhotep III. At its end was the shrine where rituals were performed. Scholars believe they confirmed the passing on of the king's divine aspect, known as the royal *ka*.

RENE MATTES/GETTY IMAGES

FROM KARNAK TO LUXOR

Mystery surrounds the rituals that were undertaken once the barks arrived in procession at the Temple of Luxor. The illustration depicts Opet during or after the reign of Ramses II. The barks of Amun, Mut, and Khons have passed through Ramses' monumental first pylon into the first court. From here, it is believed the procession entered the second court, and from there made its way into the innermost sanctuary for secret and sacred rituals.

① *Avenue of Sphinxes*

In the early iterations of Opet under Queen Hatshepsut, the barks arrived at Luxor a ong th:s avenue lined with sph nxes. Later, the barks made the round-trip to and from Luxor by river.

② *The first court*

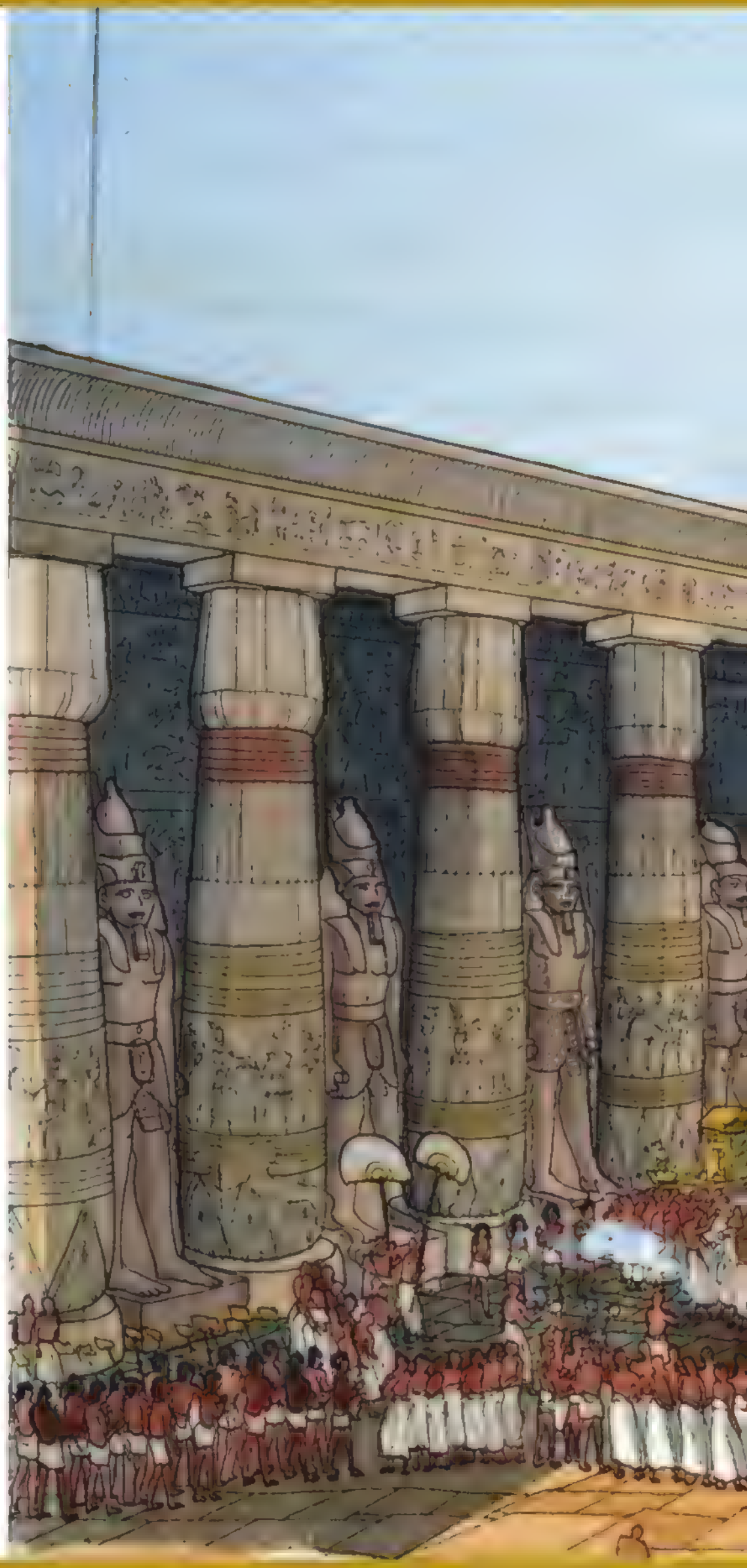
The i lustration shows the Temple of Luxor's first court, bu lt by Ramses II. On the northwest side of the court stood the triple shr ne where the bark of Amun would be placed.

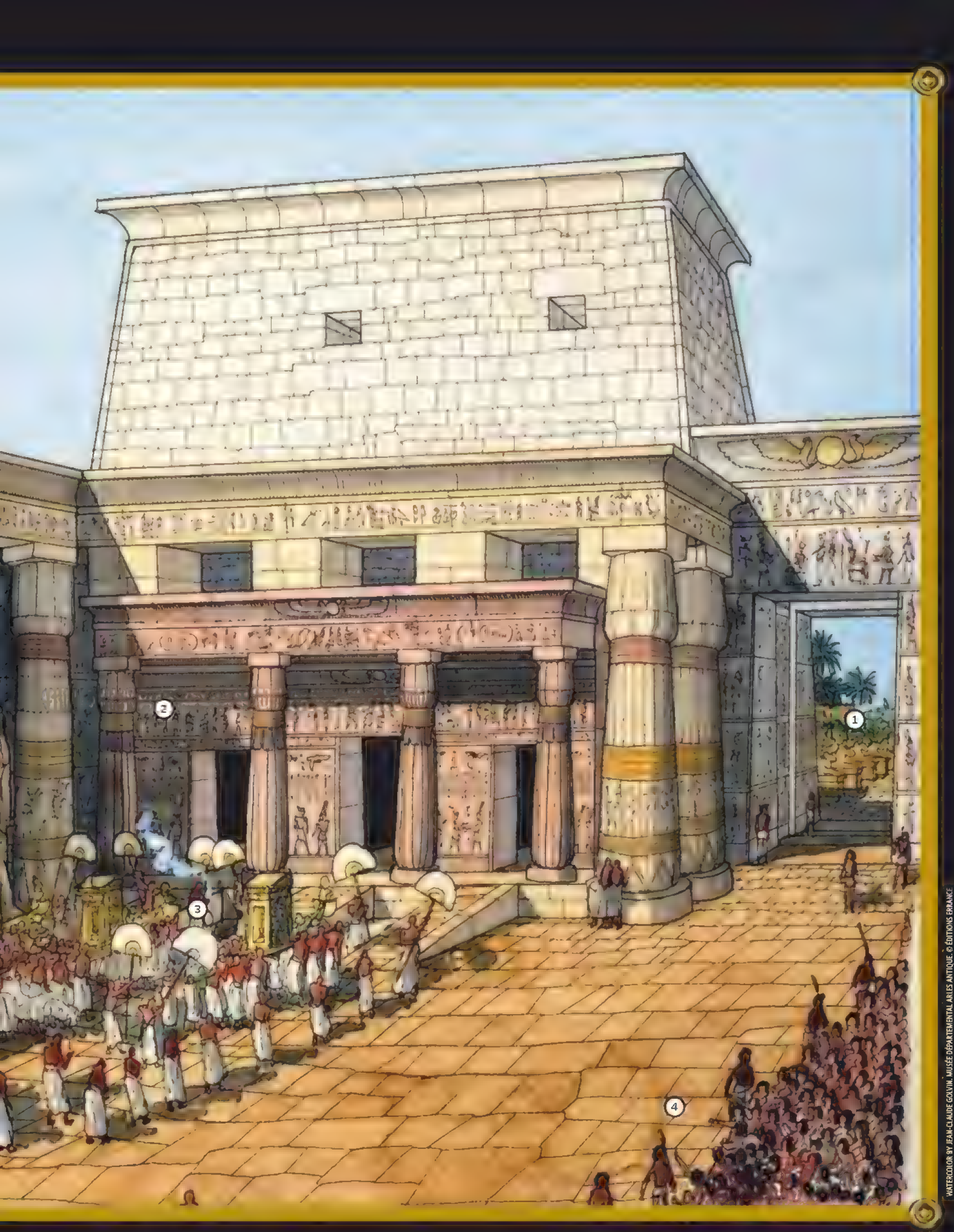
③ *The sacred barks*

At first, only Amun was borne to Luxor. This depict on shows how Opet evolved to include not only the bark of Amun but also the barks of Mut and Khons.

④ *The populace*

The spectac.e inspired awe in the public. Ordinary Egyptians were admitted to the outer courts to take part in the offerings of food, which was later distributed among them.



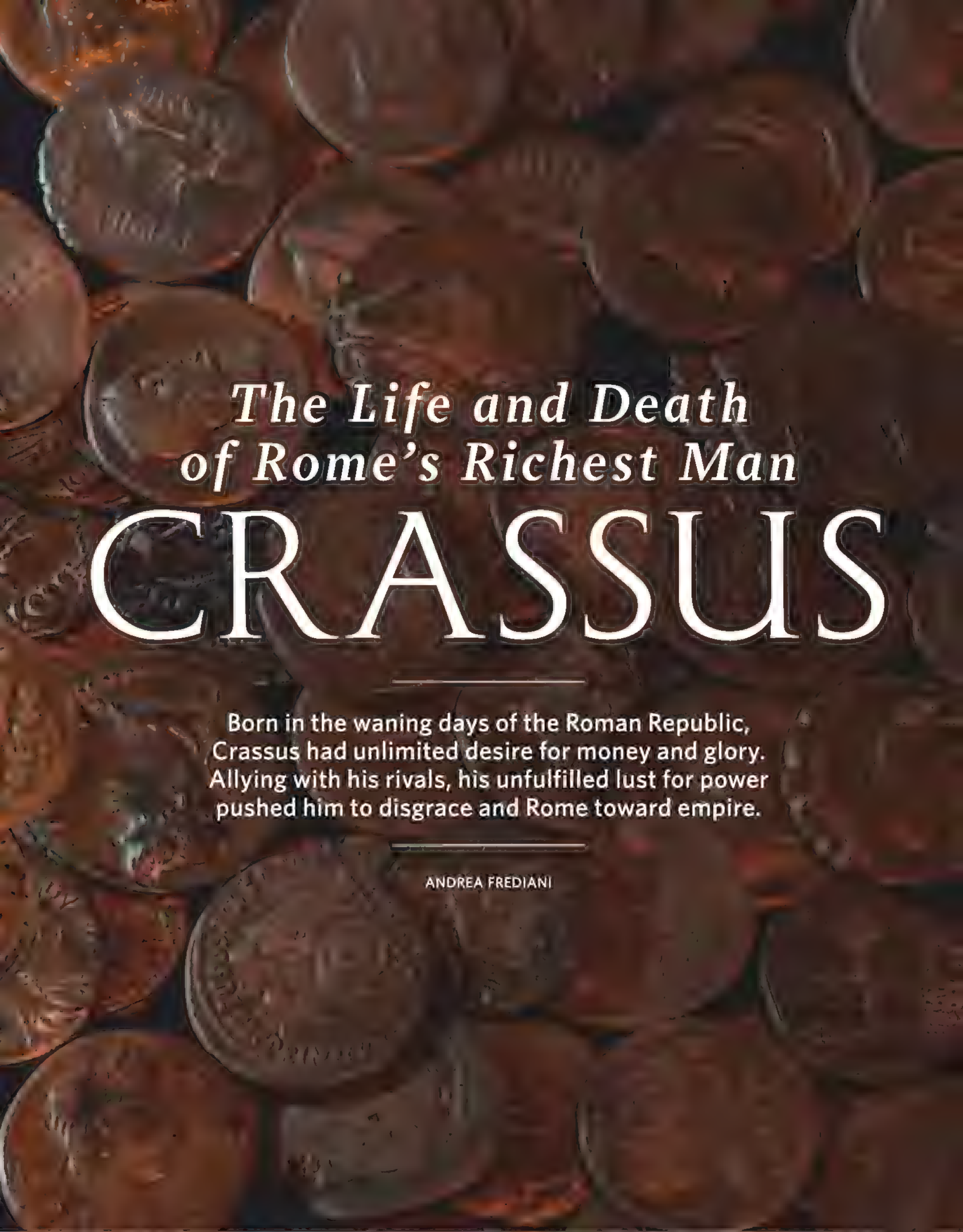


WATERCOLOR BY JEAN-CLAUDE GOLVIN. MUSÉE DÉPARTEMENTAL ARLES ANTIQUE. © ÉDITIONS ERRANCE

DROWNING IN MONEY

Roman coins envelop a bust of Crassus, who used his savvy to build an incredible fortune in Rome in the first century B.C.

BUST: H. LEWANDOWSKI/RMN-GRAND PALAIS
COINS: SCHÖFMANN/AGE FOTOSTOCK



The Life and Death of Rome's Richest Man

CRASSUS

Born in the waning days of the Roman Republic, Crassus had unlimited desire for money and glory. Allying with his rivals, his unfulfilled lust for power pushed him to disgrace and Rome toward empire.

ANDREA FREDIANI

THE VICE OF AVARICE

A 1563 engraving, "The Wretchedness of Wealth" (above), depicts Crassus in the company of other men known for greed, such as the dictator Sulla (with heads hanging from his sword).

PHOTO: QUINTLOX/AJR_IMAGES.
COLOR: J. L. RODRIGUEZ

CHASING AFTER WEALTH

IN THE FIRST CENTURY B.C. Romans had an uneasy relationship with ostentatious displays of and pursuit of wealth. Established in 509 B.C., the Roman Republic embraced austerity and simplicity as core values. Many credited these tenets as the behavior that had made Rome great. Romans considered themselves superior to foreign kings who embraced luxury and its inevitable consequences: dissipation and decadence. As the republic entered its final decades, Crassus' unabashed desire for money made him an easy target for disdain. When writing about Crassus after his death, Plutarch could not see past this trait: "The Romans, it is true, say that the many virtues of Crassus were obscured by his sole vice of avarice; and it is likely that the one vice which became stronger than all the others in him weakened the rest."

In 60 B.C. Marcus Licinius Crassus was one of the most powerful men in Rome. A military commander who crushed a slave rebellion, Crassus had become a respected orator, patron, and politician, serving as consul twice among other positions. Through a combination of savvy and ruthlessness, he amassed the largest fortune in Rome. With Crassus' money and connections, many men would have been content, but Crassus was not one of them.

Crassus joined forces with two other men in 60 B.C. to form a political alliance that would come to dominate Rome: the so-called First Triumvirate. Alongside Crassus stood Gaius Julius Caesar, an ambitious military commander beginning a life in politics. Crassus had once been Caesar's patron, and the two remained allies. The third member was the proud and powerful Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus, Pompey the Great, a former rival and now an uneasy ally.

Crassus' decision to unite with these two men could seem baffling. Rich and influential, he joined the triumvirate for both practical and emotional reasons. This alliance with Caesar and Pompey not only helped pass laws favorable to his economic interests, but also gave Crassus the chance to prove his mettle as a soldier and earn the love reserved for Rome's great commanders. It was a

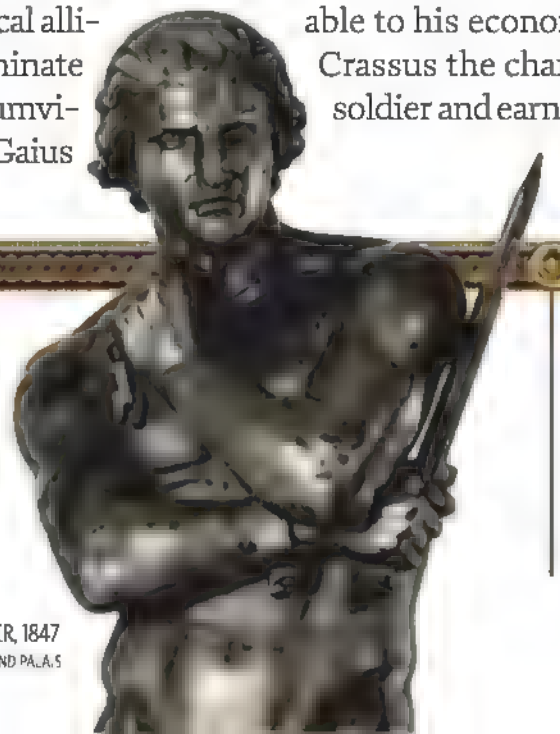
MONEY AND GLORY

82 B.C.

Crassus commands a section of the army of Lucius Cornelius Sulla in the Battle of the Colline Gate against Gaius Marius's supporters. Crassus manages to defeat the left wing of the rival army.

71 B.C.

After a succession of defeats, the Roman Senate gives Crassus command to fight against **Spartacus.** Crassus stops the rebels by the Sele River and massacres them after a hard-fought battle.



SPARTACUS. STATUE OF THE REBEL SLAVE. DENIS FOYATIER, 1847
G. ÉDA/RMN-GRAND PALAIS

desire that would cost him his life and thrust Rome into civil war.

Noble but Simple

Born circa 115 B.C., Crassus did not come from an ostentatiously wealthy family. The first-century A.D. historian Plutarch wrote in his work *The Parallel Lives* that Crassus "lived in a little house," where "they kept but one table amongst them." The family might have lived frugally, but they enjoyed an enviable social position. His father, Publius Licinius Crassus, was consul in 97 B.C., a commander in Iberia, (modern Spain) and was honored with a triumph, Rome's highest military honor, in 93 B.C.

Crassus' father died in 87 B.C. after becoming embroiled in a political struggle that turned violent. Publius had allied with Lucius Cornelius Sulla, who was vying for power against Gaius Marius. When Marius captured Rome in 87, Publius was either killed or forced to commit suicide. The young Crassus only survived because he was able to escape to Spain.

This conflict brought tragedy to the young Crassus' life, but it also brought great opportunity. In Spain Crassus started to build his fabulous wealth. He began to recruit men who would eventually join Sulla's ranks. In the civil war that ensued against Marius, Crassus played a decisive part. His forces fought in the Battle of the

ROMAN RICHES

Military victories in the first century B.C. led to a huge increase in the public funds available in the republic. The Temple of Saturn (above) was the seat of the Roman treasury.

BORIS STROUJKO/SHUTTERSTOCK

70 B.C.

Despite their public disputes, **Crassus and Pompey** share the consulate. The political tension allows only a few reforms, aiming to limit the Senate's power, to be approved during their mandate.

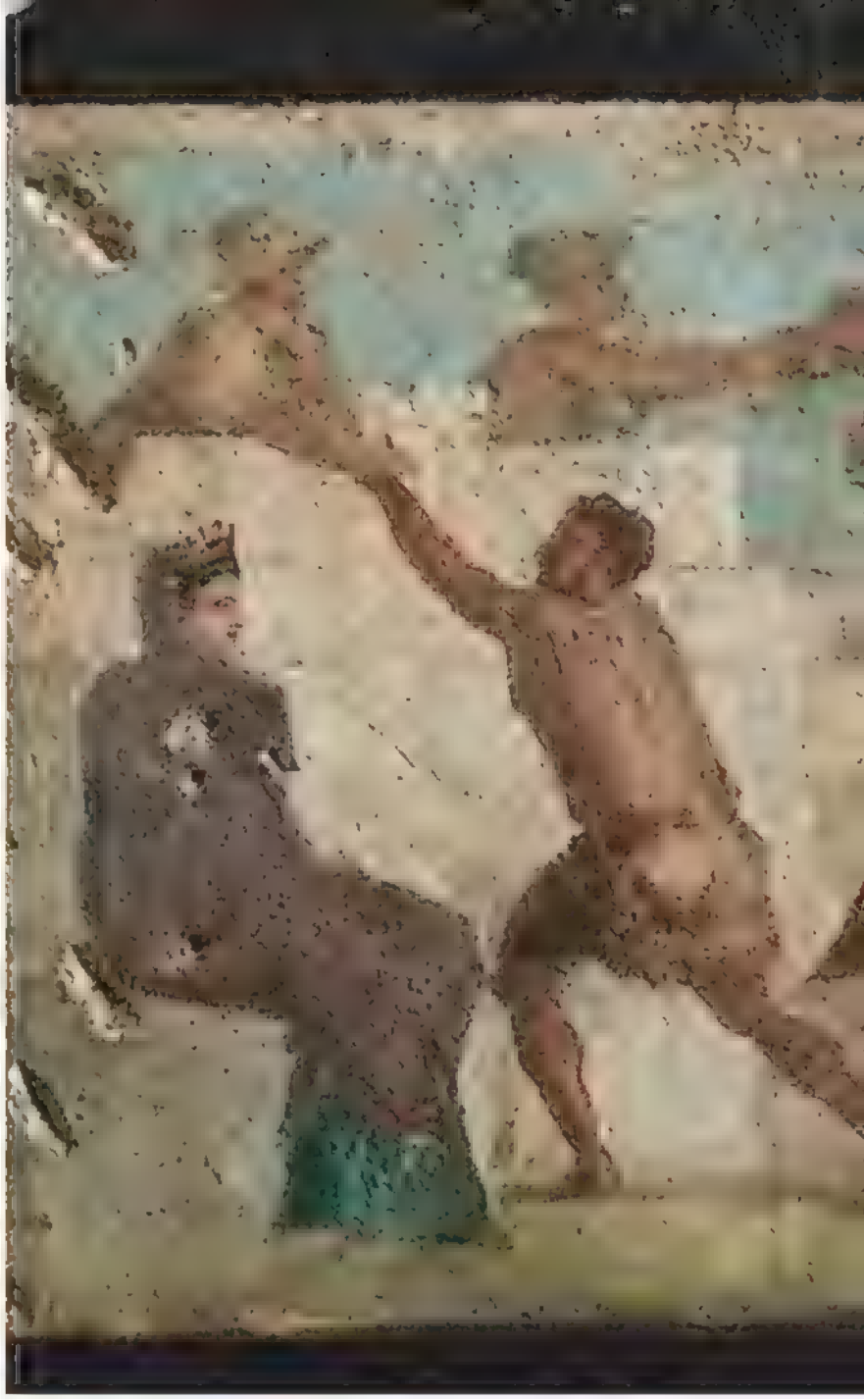
56 B.C.

On his return from Gaul, **Caesar** arranges a meeting of the triumvirs to formalize the distribution of the Roman world among them. A second consulate for Crassus and Pompey is agreed on.

53 B.C.

Crassus leads the campaign against the Parthians. In **Carrhae,** Surenas, the leader of the Parthian army, crushes the Roman army. Crassus is killed.

THE FACE OF KING ORODES II ADORNS THIS PARTHIAN COIN FROM THE F RST CENTURY B.C. MONEY MUSEUM ZURICH



THE ROMAN CAVEMAN

LIKE MANY POWERFUL PEOPLE in the late Roman Republic, Crassus also found himself having to flee the city from time to time. In 87 B.C., when he was only 28, he fled Rome, taking three friends and 10 slaves with him. Marius had taken control of the city, and Crassus' father and brother were killed for opposing them. According to the historian Plutarch, Crassus fled to Spain, where his father had been praetor and still had many allies. Even there, people were scared of the reach of Marius's purges, so Crassus took refuge in a cave. When he had settled in there, he sent a messenger to Vibius Paciacus, a friend of his father. Paciacus was more than willing to help and arranged to send daily provisions to the cave. It was an ideal hiding spot. Plutarch described it as "not far away from the sea . . . a spring of purest flow issues from the base of the cliff, and natural fissures in the rock . . . admit the light from outside, so that in the day-time the place is bright." Crassus spent eight months in the cave, only venturing out after learning that his enemies in Rome were no longer a threat.

A KNIGHT FROM MARIUS'S FIRST LEGION. FUNERARY STELA. MUSEUM OF ROMAN CIVILIZATION, ROME
DEA/ALBUM

Colline Gate in 82 B.C., which would end the civil war between Marius and Sulla. Crassus' involvement in this war not only brought him glory and money but also forged his reputation for greed: His soldiers complained to Sulla that Crassus would not share the significant spoils he had accrued in the course of the conflict.

The war is also notable for the beginnings of the rivalry between Pompey and Crassus, according to Plutarch. Pompey's three legions were essential to the efforts to recapture Rome, feats that drew great praise from Sulla, who allowed him to marry his stepdaughter. This acclaim did not escape the notice of Crassus. Plutarch wrote how it "inflamed and goaded him."

An Eye for a Bargain

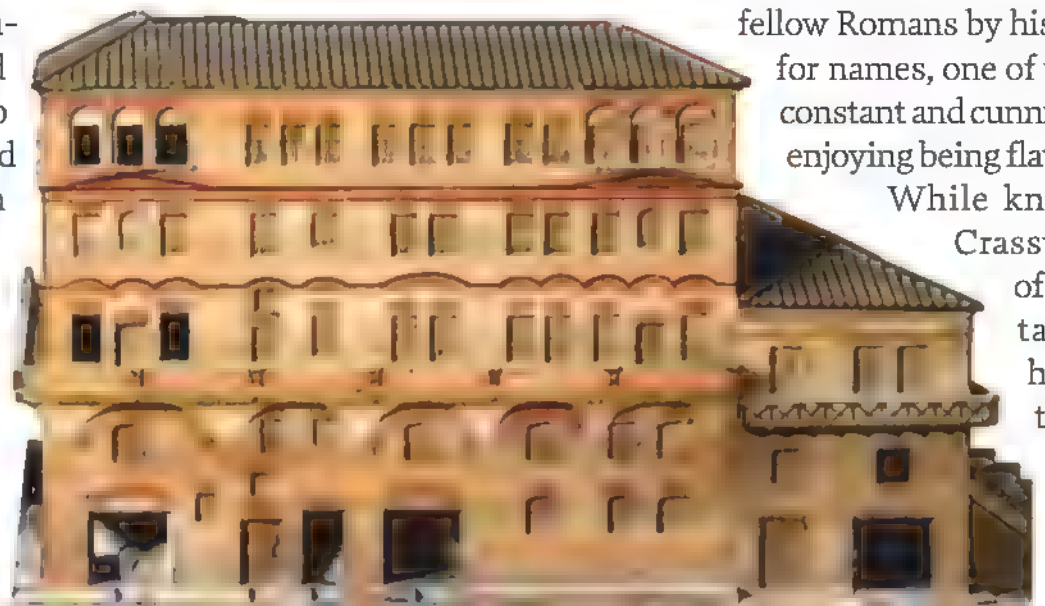
Sulla did reward Crassus for his service in the war. His gratitude allowed Crassus to be the prime beneficiary of a highly lucrative process of revenge, in which Sulla confiscated the assets of Marius's followers and then let his allies buy them at bargain prices, sowing the seeds of Crassus' real estate empire.

SLAVE LABOR
Enslaved workers toil in a Roman fresco. Crassus relied on a large slave labor force to renovate the damaged houses he bought and sold.
WHA/AGRIMAGES

Crassus's keen eye for business, and instinct for any opportunity to increase his wealth, took him into extremely dubious moral territory. He apparently had few qualms when making profit from others' misfortune. He kept a sharp lookout for fires that would periodically destroy whole sections of the city, particularly in the most popular quarters, where the buildings were stacked together. When a block burned down, owners of adjacent buildings would then sell their own for fear of collapse, and Crassus would swoop on the easy pickings. According to Plutarch, "the greatest part of Rome, at one time or another, came into his hands."

One of Crassus' most valuable assets was his enslaved workforce of more than 500 people. Many considered them more valuable than his silver mines or farmland. Crassus educated them to fulfill various roles such as secretaries, goldsmiths, stewards, and servants.

OWNING THE WHOLE OF ROME
An insula (below) was a Roman apartment building that typically housed laborers. Crassus often bought these and neighboring structures after they had been damaged by fire.
A. JEMOLO/ALBUM



Some were trained specialists—architects and masons who could repair and rebuild damaged properties with little expense. After the renovations, Crassus would sell the buildings at much higher prices.

Smooth Talker

The unscrupulous real estate tycoon was not, however, lacking in social skills. In an era when rhetoric was essential to further one's political career, Crassus was considered a highly gifted public speaker. He was also cordial and kind to everyone, even to the humblest people who stopped him on the street. He impressed his fellow Romans by his prodigious memory for names, one of the best assets of his constant and cunning flattery (while also enjoying being flattered).

While known for his greed, Crassus was also capable of being generous. Plutarch described how he opened his house to visitors, donated a

A ROMAN MILITARY EXECUTION IN AN ENGRAVING BY JOHN BEAVER, 1725. METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, NEW YORK

ALAMY/ACI

UNFORGIVING DISCIPLINE

ONE OF THE MOST important values in the Roman military was strict adherence to discipline. As a commander, Crassus never hesitated to employ it. When his forces were sent to put down the slave rebellion of Spartacus, one of Crassus' soldiers, Mummius, disobeyed orders. He had been instructed to observe enemy positions and avoid confrontation. Mummius disregarded the order, attacked, and was soundly defeated by the slaves. After severely reprimanding him, Crassus decided to apply a punishment that had fallen out of practice: the *decimatio*. Five hundred of Mummius's men were divided into groups of 10. The members of each group drew lots, and the loser would be beaten to death by his companions as Crassus and the army watched.

tenth of his wealth to the cult of Hercules, and gave enough grain to feed every citizen for three months. He was also generous when it came to lending money to his friends. He would charge them no interest but expected payment in full at the end of the loan.

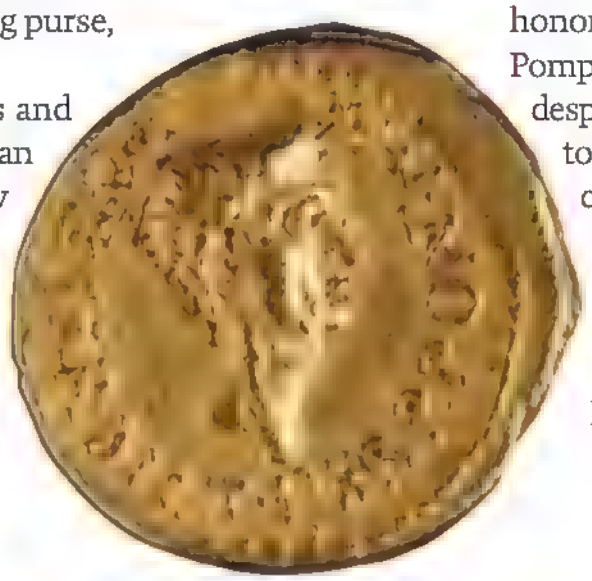
Crassus' generosity served an important political purpose. The status of a Roman citizen was measured by the number of clients who depended on him. In other words, he was only as important as the men who owed him favors. Lending money to a promising protégé could prove to be a wise investment. If he served the republic with a military command abroad, he could come back with an enhanced reputation, a bulging purse, and a debt to his patron.

The relationship between Crassus and Gaius Julius Caesar grew out of such an arrangement. Crassus correctly saw young Caesar as a man on the make; if he relieved Caesar from debt, that favor would be eventually repaid. Crassus took care of Caesar's debts before he left on his governorship of Hispania Ulterior (in southern Spain) in 62 B.C., further solidifying the relationship between the two men.

MONEY AND INFLUENCE

Julius Caesar (shown below on an aureus) and Crassus had a relationship based on mutual interest. Crassus provided Caesar with money to cancel his debts, and Caesar later used his influences to boost the political career of his ally.

ROGER VIOLLET/AURIMAGES



Roots of Rivalry

Crassus had no problems in dealing with men of different political beliefs, particularly if there was a personal benefit to be made (Julius Caesar had belonged to a different political party). There was, however, one exception to this principle: his rival, Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus, better known as Pompey or Pompey the Great.

When a Roman general achieved a significant military victory, the city would organize a ceremony, known as a *triumphus* (triumph) in his honor. Sulla had begrudgingly granted one to Pompey for a victory in the war against Marius despite the fact that Pompey was too young even to be a senator. Eaten up by envy, Crassus became more and more frustrated as Pompey chalked up yet more victories. His jealousy increased as his protégé Caesar claimed even more glory.

Crassus had his own military successes. In the early 70s B.C. he was tapped to put

WAY OF DEATH

The most famous Roman road, the Appian Way connected Rome to the Adriatic Sea. After defeating the forces of Spartacus in 71 B.C., Crassus crucified thousands of captured rebels along sections of the road.

FRANCESCO IACOBELLI/AWL-IMAGES

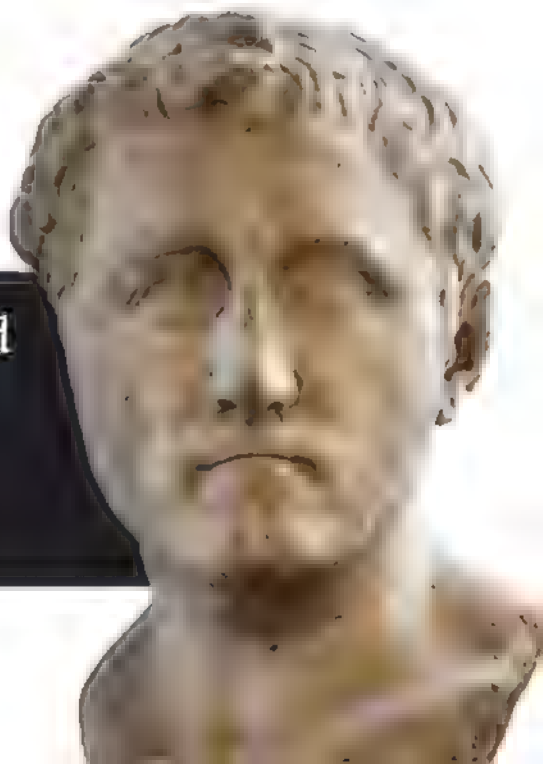
down the slave revolt led by Spartacus in the south of Italy. The revolt had sparked a serious political crisis, and his rebellion defeated even trained Roman legions. Crassus was aware that he had been chosen because Pompey and his forces were unavailable (they were in Hispania), but he was willing to make the most of this opportunity.

Commanding 10 legions, Crassus had more men and resources than the previous commanders sent against Spartacus. Four units were formed by the survivors of previous campaigns against the slaves. In April, 71 B.C., he isolated Spartacus and forced him to fight near the Sele River. He dealt a stunning defeat to the slaves, crucifying 6,000 captives along the Appian Way. But the victory was not complete. At least 5,000 slaves had escaped and were moving toward Gaul.

Intercepting them on the way from Hispania were Pompey and his troops. The slaves were duly vanquished, and the remaining survivors also crucified. While Crassus had crippled the revolt, it was Pompey who ended it. Pompey took credit for the victory and received another triumph, much to the chagrin of Crassus, who was given an *ovatio* (ovation), a lesser celebration with fewer honors. Recipients were given a myrtle crown instead of the laurel awarded to the superior class of victors.

The relationship between Pompey and Crassus did not improve. Despite the tensions, both were elected to a joint consulship in 70 B.C., but their personal enmity made it an uneasy partnership.

In the following years Pompey continued to accumulate military victories: He rid the Mediterranean Sea of pirates, a constant nuisance for Roman trade. He defeated Mithradates of Pontus (an empire mostly in modern-day Turkey). He also campaigned against other eastern people, from Armenia to Judaea.



While Crassus had crippled the slave revolt, it was Pompey who ended it.

BUST OF POMPEY. CA 70 B.C. LOUVRE MUSEUM, PARIS

LEEMAGE/PRISMA ARCHIVO

HUMILIATING THE ROMANS

THE UNFULFILLED DESIRE for military glory and riches motivated Crassus' ill-fated invasion of Parthia, which brought him defeat, shame, and ridicule. Surenas, the Parthian general who defeated him, killed Crassus, removed his head and one hand, and sent them to his king, Orodes II. Killing Crassus was not enough; the defeated Romans were further humiliated by the victorious Parthians. Plutarch related how a Roman prisoner who resembled Crassus was forced to dress like a woman and paraded before the victors while they jeered, calling him "Imperator." Following him, women sang obscene verses about the cowardice and effeminacy of the fallen Roman general. A later tradition holds that Crassus was executed by having molten gold poured down his throat. This story may be a misreading of the account by Dio Cassius, which seems to indicate that the Parthians did indeed pour molten gold down his throat to mock his unquenchable thirst for wealth—but only after he was already dead.

"THE DEATH OF MARCUS LICINIUS CRASSUS" SHOWS CRASSUS BEFORE GOLD IS POURED DOWN HIS THROAT. LANCELOT BLONDEEL, 16TH CENTURY. GROENINGE MUSEUM, BRUGES
BRIDGEMAN/AC

As Pompey was gathering accolades in the east, the bond that Crassus had established with Julius Caesar bore fruit. After he returned to Rome from his governorship in Spain, Caesar acted as an architect of an alliance (known as the First Triumvirate) among the three great men. Caesar was able to convince both Pompey and Crassus that if they supported his candidacy to the consulship in 59 B.C., he would favor their interests. The three could work together to subvert any opposition in the Roman Senate. This agreement was not strictly illegal, but it did imply a certain disdain for republican institutions, and was eagerly denounced by their enemies, such as Cato and Cicero, when the agreement became public.

An Unnecessary War

The consulate in Rome was usually followed by a governorship in foreign provinces. As a part of his agreement with Crassus and Pompey, Caesar took command of Roman forces in Gaul when his consulship was up. In the same way, after Pompey and Crassus were co-consuls in 55 B.C., Pompey took command of territory in Hispania

and Africa while Crassus became governor of the Syrian provinces. Crassus, who was about 60, still craved military glory and set his sights on Parthia, an eastern empire in Mesopotamia, and its king, Orodes II.

Crassus began his invasion in 53 B.C., but the Parthians were not easily subdued. Writing more than 200 years after Crassus' death, Roman historian Dio Cassius related an episode where Crassus boasted to a Parthian ambassador that he would take the western Parthian capital Seleucia; the ambassador laughed, pointed at his palm, and said: "Sooner will hair grow here than you shall reach Seleucia."

Crassus made a series of blunders, including refusing an offer from the king of Armenia for more soldiers if he would invade Parthia from his country. Instead, Crassus chose to advance through the desert, a decision that left his 43,000 men tired and undernourished.

Near Carrhae, a town in what is now Turkey, Crassus engaged the Parthian forces, led by General Surenas who fought with cunning and patience. Surenas dealt a stunning defeat, in which, according to Plutarch: "In the whole campaign, twenty thousand are said to have been killed, and ten thousand to have been taken alive." Among the dead was Crassus' own son.

Taken alive, Crassus met his own end at Surenas's hands. Historians agree Crassus was slain at a meeting to discuss a truce, but sources present different versions of what happened to Crassus post-death. According to Plutarch, his head and one hand are sent to King Orodes II. Dio Cassius relates a more elaborate way of dishonoring Crassus's remains: "And the Parthians, as some say, poured molten gold into his mouth in mockery."

After his death, the rivalry between Caesar and Pompey exploded, plunging Rome into civil war. Rather than bringing wealth and territory to Rome, Crassus delivered Rome one of its worst defeats and political instability. Military glory had eluded the wealthiest man in Rome. Instead, he became synonymous with the dangers of unbridled lust for money, power, and glory.

ITALIAN HISTORIAN AND HISTORICAL NOVELIST ANDREA FREDIANI IS A SPECIALIST IN ROME'S FIRST IMPERIAL DYNASTY

OUT OF REACH

The army led by Crassus never made it to Ctesiphon (above), the winter capital of Parthia. The Romans were stopped in their tracks and massacred in the town of Carrhae.

SCALA, FLORENCE

DEATH AT CARRHAE

THE ARMY COMMANDED by Crassus totaled 43,000 men, who arrived at Carrhae exhausted from crossing the desert. Surenas, the Parthian commander, awaited them on the outskirts of this city, but he only ordered a fraction of his 11,000 men to leave the cover of the dunes and provoke the Romans into attack. After the initial skirmishes, Crassus ordered his legions to adopt a square formation, with the cavalry, led by his son Publius, covering the sides. Surenas then ordered his thousands of archers on horseback to attack, but avoiding direct contact after every barrage. Meanwhile, the heavy cavalry of the cataphracts (horses and horsemen protected by armor) surrounded the legions.

PUBLIUS TRIED TO COUNTERATTACK, but the cataphracts drew back and managed to isolate the Roman cavalry, picking them off one by one. Crassus was transfixed with horror upon seeing his son's head stuck on a pike. He waited for the enemy to exhaust their arrows before launching a counterattack, but Surenas's troops had a camel caravan with seemingly endless reserves. Arrows only stopped raining down on the Romans at night, so they tried to retreat then. In the morning, 70 percent of his army had been slaughtered, and Crassus was killed during the peace negotiations he was trying to conduct.

ROMAN SOLDIERS ARE OVERWHELMED BY PARTHIAN FORCES IN THIS ILLUSTRATION BY GIUSEPPE RAVA.

THIS PAGE AND RIGHT: AKG/A. BUM

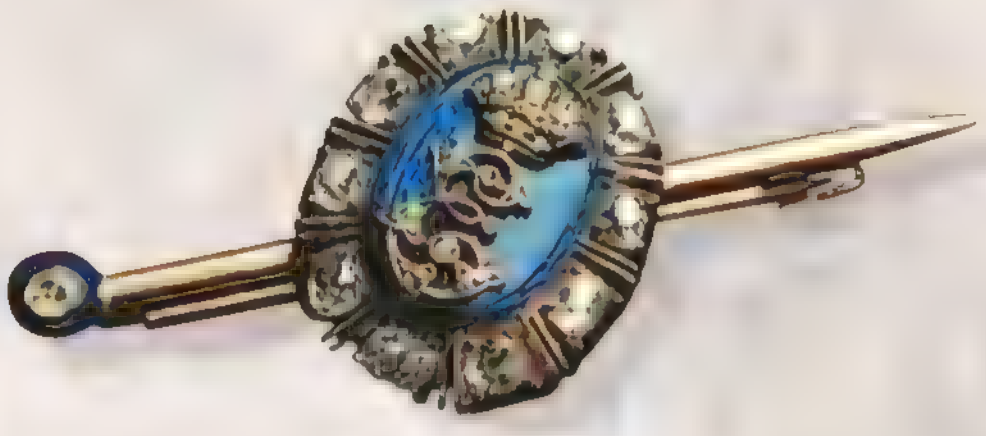
SCALES FORM THE ARMOR OF RIDERS AND HORSES IN THIS PLASTER CAST OF TRAJAN'S COLUMN IN ROME. THIS STYLE OF ARMOR, CAVALRY, KNOWN AS A CATAPHRACT, DELIVERED THE KNOCKOUT BLOW TO CRASSUS AT CARRHAE IN 53 B.C.

BEAUTY QUEEN

EMPRESS ELISABETH OF AUSTRIA

Married at 16 to the emperor of Austria, Elisabeth—nicknamed Sisi—was a reluctant empress, struggling with life at court and sympathetic to the democratic struggles of the people in her new nation.

MARÍA PILAR QUERALT DEL HIERRO



ENIGMATIC ELISABETH
Franz Winterhalter's iconic 1865 portrait of Elisabeth (Sisi) depicts her at age 27, with a coquettish smile and bejeweled hair. Opposite, a diamond brooch that belonged to the empress.

PORTRAIT: BRIDGEMAN/AGE FOTOSTOCK
BROOCH: STEPHANE CARDINALE/GETTY IMAGES

SIMPLE PLEASURES
Karl von Piloty's portrait of Sisi, age 16, on horseback shows the comfortable, Bavarian castle of Possenhofen, the adored childhood home of the empress-to-be.

FINE ART/ALBUM

The life of Elisabeth of Austria sounds like a romantic novel: A vivacious Bavarian princess captures the heart of the Austrian emperor. They marry and return to his palace in Vienna, where she confronts not only the stifling, iron-clad rules of court but also her domineering mother-in-law.

While the overarching themes may sound like fiction, they were very much the realities of Elisabeth's life. Struggling to fit into court life, she clashed with Archduchess Sophie, her aunt and mother-in-law. Her husband's civic duties kept the couple apart, which further isolated the young empress. She turned to many interests and pastimes to fill the hours. She read and wrote poetry, she traveled, and she studied the culture of her people, especially Hungary.

Elisabeth's life played out against the dramatic upheavals of 19th-century Europe. Elisabeth entered the Austrian court as Prussia and Germany were gaining power, and the Habsburg monarchy sought to maintain control of Austria and Hungary in the face of popular opposition. Unsure of her role in a world where old certainties were being upended, the empress embarked on a lifelong search for a larger purpose outside of the roles traditionally ascribed to women. Her search brought her both great joy and sorrow, until it ended, with an assassin's knife, in 1898.

A TROUBLED LIFE

1854
ELISABETH of Bavaria (Sisi), age 16, marries Emperor Franz Josef in Vienna. She is unhappy at court, where she feels bullied by her aunt and mother-in-law, Archduchess Sophie.

1857
SISI'S daughters, infant Gisela and Sophie (age two), contract dysentery in Hungary. Sophie dies. Stricken with grief, Sisi entrusts Gisela to the care of her mother-in-law.

1867
SISI and Franz Josef are crowned constitutional monarchs of Hungary following lobbying by Sisi, an admirer of Hungarian culture. Thanks to Sisi, the empire is now known as Austria-Hungary.

IMPERIAL SPLENDOR

Built in the 13th century, the Hofburg in Vienna was the imperial seat of the Austrian Habsburg dynasty. The palace's warren of lavish private and state apartments contrasted greatly with the modest mansion where Sisi grew up.

SANDRA RACCANELLO/FOTOTECA 9X12

1889

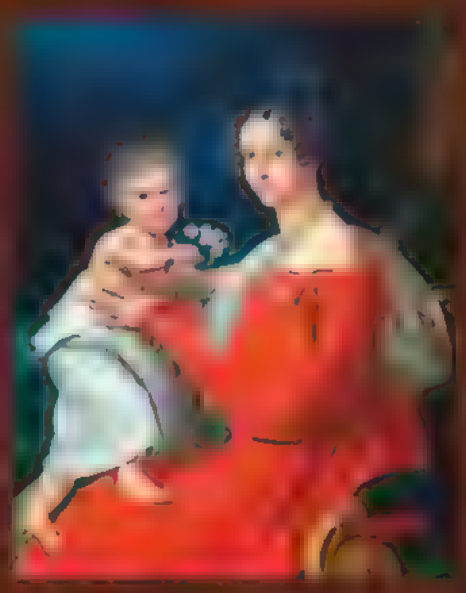
RUDOLF Sisi's son and the heir to the throne, is found dead at age 30 beside the body of his teenage lover in a suicide pact. In her grief Sisi travels abroad for long periods.

1898

SISI is stabbed to death by an Italian anarchist while about to take a ferry across Lac Léman (Lake Geneva). She is buried in the Capuchin Crypt, Vienna.

In the Shadow of Sophie

EXECUTING A SERIES OF remarkable maneuvers, the Archduchess Sophie—Elisabeth's aunt and mother-in-law—placed her own son on the imperial throne. Born in Munich, Bavaria, in 1805, Sophie married the Archduke of Austria, Franz Karl, when she was 19. A decade later, her husband's mentally deficient brother, Ferdinand, became emperor, with day-to-day rule overseen by the diplomat Klemens von Metternich. Overturning conventions as to how women should behave, Sophie frequently challenged Metternich, helping engineer his downfall in 1848. On Ferdinand's abdication that same year, Sophie persuaded her husband to renounce his claim to the throne and let their 18-year-old son, Franz Josef, accede. Sophie knew she could control her son, but not so her niece and daughter-in-law. On her arrival in Vienna in 1854, Elisabeth resented what she saw as Sophie's controlling nature.

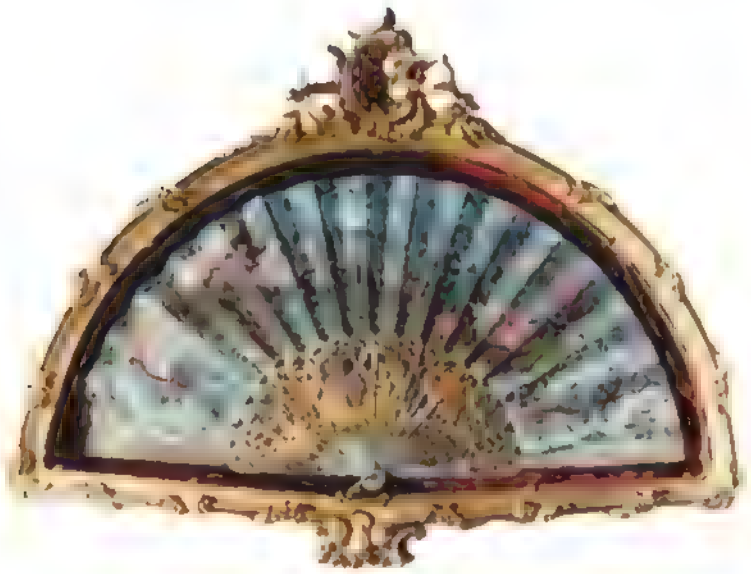


ARCHDUCHESS SOPHIE OF AUSTRIA WITH HER SON FRANZ JOSEF, AGE TWO. HOFBURG, VIENNA AKG/ALBUM

Born Free

Elisabeth grew up in Bavaria, a wealthy Catholic kingdom that is now the largest state in Germany. She was the fourth of 10 children born to Duke Maximilian Joseph of Bavaria and Princess Ludovika, daughter of King Maximilian I of Bavaria. At the time of Elisabeth's birth in 1837, Bavaria was redefining itself as its neighbors, Austria and Prussia, grew more powerful.

Nicknamed Sisi from a young age, Elisabeth loved nature and spent her summers in the comfortable family mansion on the banks of Lake Starnberg south of Munich. Her childhood was unusually informal for the time and for her status. Her father, the duke, was a music-loving bon viveur with notably liberal views that filtered down to his children.



A DECORATED FAN BELONGING TO THE EMPRESS ELISABETH, WITH A SCENE OF PASTORAL MERRYMAKING BRIDGEMAN/ACI

As Sisi and her sisters grew, her mother Ludovika's thoughts turned to their marriage. Sisi's maternal aunt, Sophie, was married to the Archduke of Austria, Franz Karl. In 1848 their unmarried son, Franz Josef, became Austrian emperor at age 18. He looked to be a promising catch, and Ludovika set her sights on him.

At age 15, Sisi was too young to be considered a potential mate for the emperor, and the family focused on her eldest sister, Helene, whose elegance, piety, and reserve would be essential qualities for an emperor's consort. Following discussions between her mother and Sophie, Helene was invited to Bad Ischl, the town where the imperial family summered, with a view to securing an engagement in 1853.

A Surprise Engagement

At first, only Helene and Ludovika were to make the journey that summer, but Sisi joined them. Shy and introverted, Sisi showed no interest in

"I Gambled Freedom Away"

The day after the engagement between Franz Josef and Elisabeth of Bavaria was announced, Sisi's mother, Ludovika, declared: "It is a such prodigious joy and yet such a weighty and important situation, that I am very moved in every respect. She is so young, so inexperienced but I hope that forbearance will be shown to such extreme youth." Her hopes proved ill founded. Soon after her wedding, Sisi confessed in a poem how distraught she felt at finding herself suddenly cloistered in the imperial palace in Vienna:

Oh had I but never left the path / That would have led me to freedom / Oh, that on the broad avenues / of vanity I had never strayed! / I have awakened in a dungeon / With chains on my hands. / And my longing ever stronger / And freedom! You turned from me! / I have awakened from a rapture, / Which held my spirit captive, / And vainly do I curse this exchange, / In which I gambled freedom away.

A PORCELAIN PAINTING OF FRANZ JOSEF AND ELISABETH (SISI) DURING THEIR ENGAGEMENT. KUNSTHISTORISCHES MUSEUM, VIENNA
AKG/ALBUM

ROYAL ENTOURAGE
Court life provided little privacy. This 1861 photograph shows the empress Sisi with her back to the camera, surrounded by some of her ladies-in-waiting.

AUSTRIAN ARCHIVES/SCALA, FLORENCE

romance. She appeared very much a child, still dressing simply and wearing her hair in two braids. She was so shy that she had trouble eating in the presence of the Austrians. She seemed a bit player in a drama reserved for Helene.

Soon after the three women arrived, eagle-eyed courtiers could not help but notice how the young emperor's attention was directed not at Helene but at her younger sister. Her aunt, Archduchess Sophie, recalled in her diary her son's outpourings of praise: "Oh, but how sweet Sisi is . . . what a magnificent crown of hair frames her face! What lovely soft eyes she has, and lips like strawberries." Efforts were made to steer his attentions to the older sister. When it became clear Franz Josef preferred Sisi to Helene, his mother and aunt decided to support the match.

Sisi was overcome with apprehension. She wrote, plaintively: "I love the emperor. If only he were not the emperor." But her feelings were not to stand in the way of her family's will, or her mother's pragmatic injunction that "one does not simply send the Emperor of Austria packing." The pair were first cousins, but this obstacle was quickly overcome by papal dispensation to marry. On April 24, 1854, the marriage between Emperor Franz Josef and Elisabeth of Bavaria was solemnized in Vienna, and Sisi became the empress of Austria.

Crushed by the Court

The young couple had little time to enjoy their union. Although Franz Josef professed to be very much in love with his new bride, his imperial responsibilities left him with little time for her. Six years before, in 1848, Europe had been rocked by revolutions. Although Austria had brutally crushed dissent in Hungary, Franz Josef's territories were increasingly bedeviled by problems. The conclusion of the Crimean War had increased tensions with Russia, and tensions were rising in the Balkans.

If Franz Josef felt daunted by having to return to the practical realities of power, any fairy-tale notions Sisi may have had quickly evaporated too. Her life was carefully controlled and monitored. She had little privacy. The morning after she consummated her marriage, the whole court was informed.

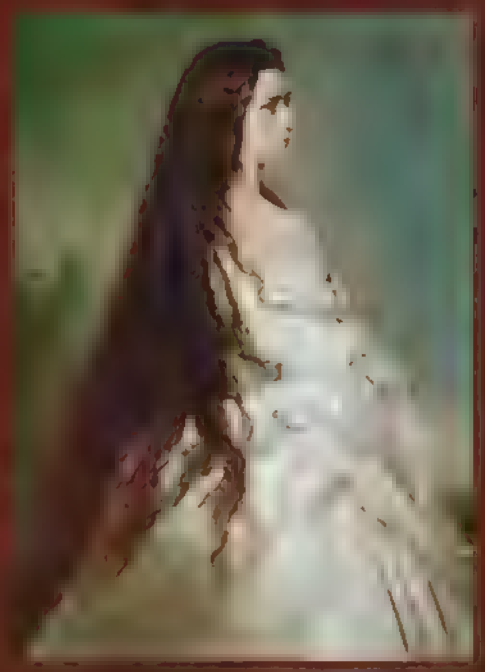
Once settled at Vienna's imperial palace, she was stricken with homesickness, especially when she remembered the carefree life she had enjoyed in the Bavarian countryside. Her unorthodox upbringing was at strong odds with

SUMMERING IN STYLE
Dazzling rococo features adorn the Great Gallery of the Schönbrunn Palace, the traditional summer residence of the Habsburgs on the western side of Vienna. Built to rival France's Versailles, it boasts a total of 1,441 rooms.

SYLVAIN SONNET/GETTY IMAGES

Her Crowning Glory

THE EMPRESS SISI was greatly—some biographers suggest, obsessively—attentive to her physical appearance. Her most famous trait was her rich, flowing chestnut hair, whose handling she entrusted for many years entirely to her hairdresser, Fanny Angerer. Sources say that if Fanny was unavailable to style Sisi's hair, then the empress would decline to appear at official functions. Fanny worked as a stylist at the theater, where Sisi noticed her talents. She hired her, and Fanny became the imperial hairdresser, devoting hours every day to caring for the royal locks. Wearing white gloves and no rings, she would spend hours brushing and braiding strands of hair before twisting them up into an impressive coiffure. Sisi demanded that Fanny keep track of all the "lost hairs" and place any stray strands in a silver bowl for her to count. Sisi paid Fanny a salary of 2,000 gulden, roughly twice the salary of a university professor.



SISI'S FLOWING LOCKS. 1864 PORTRAIT BY FRANZ WINTERHALTER. KUNSTHISTORISCHES MUSEUM, VIENNA
ERICH LESSING/ALBUM

the rigid rules in Vienna. Sisi turned to poetry to express her unhappiness, with verses recording a strong sense of desolation:

> *But what are the delights of Spring to me,*
> *Here in this distant alien land?*
> *I yearn for the sun of my homeland*
> *I yearn for the beaches of the Isar.*

Court etiquette left her feeling crushed. Her ladies-in-waiting were much older than she. With her husband occupied with matters of state, she had little in the way of companionship.

Almost immediately, Sisi clashed with her mother-in-law, Sophie. The formidable archduchess, by then nearly 50, had also grown up in Bavaria, but fought tooth and nail to impose her will on the Austrian court. She subjected Sisi's habits, clothes, and pastimes to scrutiny and censure. Franz Josef did not interfere, perhaps because he was in debt to his mother for elevating him to the throne through her skillful maneuvering.

Such was Sophie's power that less than a year after the wedding, when Elisabeth gave birth to her first daughter, the archduchess insisted the child be named for her. She also took charge of the infant's care, declaring that the mother was too young to do it properly herself. Following the birth of Sisi's second daughter, Gisela, the archduchess asserted control again—but this time Sisi stood up to her. Two weeks after Gisela's birth, she and little Sophie were moved to Sisi's rooms at the Hofburg.

Victory was short-lived, however, and followed all too soon by tragedy. In the spring of 1857, little Sophie caught dysentery during a trip with her parents to Hungary. The two-year-old died. Her mother, just 19 years old, was consumed with grief. Sisi relinquished responsibility for raising Gisela to her mother-in-law. A deep depression descended on Sisi that didn't lift when she gave birth to a son, Rudolf, the following year.

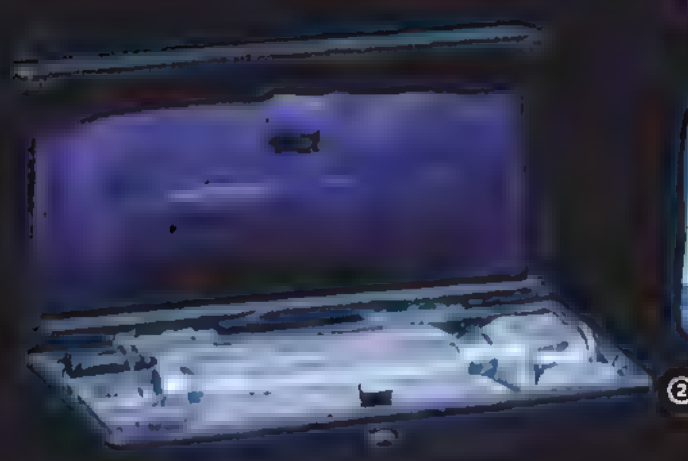
Southern Comfort

Despite her inward misery, Sisi appeared outwardly beautiful, owing to her obsession with her appearance. Famous for her beauty, Sisi devoted much time to maintaining it. Records indicate she spent three hours a day taking care of her long hair. When dressing, it took roughly an hour to cinch her waist to a punishing 19.5 inches. As Sisi aged, she became morbidly afraid

IMPERIAL ITEMS

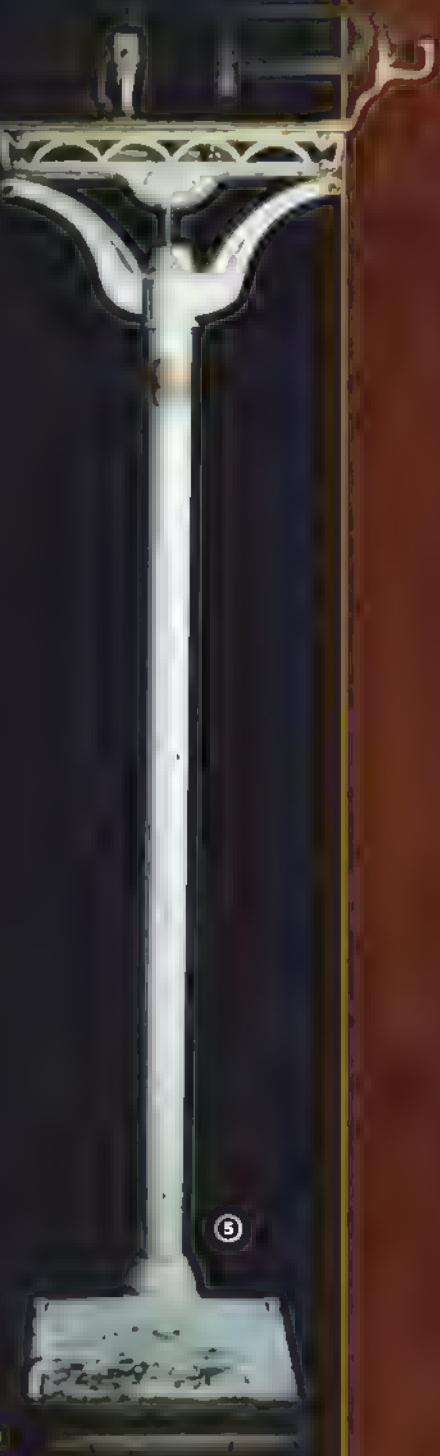
The empress relied on various gadgets and accessories to help prepare her food, weigh herself, and exercise. But her body was not her only preoccupation: She also kept her journal close by to write down her ideas, observations, and poems.

① *Meat press*
This portable meat press enabled the empress to continue following her special protein diet while traveling.



② *Cocaine*
The empress's medicine chest held cocaine, which was used to treat a wide assortment of maladies in the 19th century.

Ladder
These specially made wall bars were used as part of Sisi's daily gym routine.



⑤ *Scale*
Sisi was obsessed with her weight and despite being tall at five feet eight inches, she kept her weight to 110 pounds.

Charms
Sisi carried amulets next to her pocket watch. Among them was a hand to ward off the evil eye.

⑥ *Journal*
Sisi often wrote scabrous poems in her diary aimed at members of her family or the court.

1, 2, AND 3: WILLFRIED GREDLER/AGE FOTOSTOCK. 4: AKG/ALBUM. 5: DEROUBAIX/GETTY IMAGES. 6: AKG/ALBUM

The Empress and the Horseman

UNHAPPY IN HER MARRIAGE and a keen traveler, Sisi was often the target of salacious gossip. In 1876 Sisi traveled to England and visited Althorp, the estate of the English aristocrat John Spencer, the fifth Earl Spencer. During her visit, Sisi planned to hunt and ride, and Spencer needed someone who could keep up with her. From his staff, he picked William George Middleton, an expert horseman with a reputation as a womanizer. Middleton rode with Sisi, guiding her and advising her on which horses to ride. The two struck up a friendship based on their mutual passion for riding, but scandalous rumors spread that the empress had fallen in love with a commoner. Middleton visited Sisi at the Hungarian castle of Godollo, where his presence and commoner status upset Sisi's ladies-in-waiting as well as her son. No one knows the true extent of their friendship, but it is believed they stopped meeting around 1882. Middleton died in a riding accident in 1892.

CAPT. WILLIAM GEORGE MIDDLETON IN AN ILLUSTRATION FROM HIS 1892 DEATH NOTICE BRIDGEMAN/ACI

of wrinkles, even wrapping slices of raw veal around her face when she slept. She stuck to a meticulous diet, severely limiting her daily intake of food. She kept a strict exercise regimen, allowing for hours of rigorous activity every day, including hiking, horseback riding, weight lifting, and calisthenics. But rather than an outlet for her anxiety, her fixation on fitness became an unhealthy obsession, resembling the symptoms of modern eating disorders.

Recent biographers have also drawn attention to her active mind and love of literature and poetry, especially for the works of poet Heinrich Heine. Seeking a pretext to escape the stifling atmosphere of Vienna, Sisi sought relief by taking her doctors' advice and heading to the Portuguese island of Madeira, where she lived in a villa overlooking the Atlantic. Here, she read poetry, walked, and immersed herself in the surrounding natural world. Her visit was the first in a series of extensive travels in which she sought to escape her unhappiness by absorbing the culture of other parts of Europe.

Anxious to reunite with her children, she made her way slowly back to Vienna in 1861. No sooner had she resumed her life there than tensions flared up again with Archduchess Sophie. Sisi declined to attend public functions and complained of physical and nervous ailments. Once again, she was advised by her doctors to seek warmer climes, and this time she chose the Mediterranean island of Corfu. A year later, in 1862, after a trip to see her family in Bavaria, she returned once more to Vienna.

EMPRESS ELISABETH'S ROUTE FROM VIENNA TO CORFU IS DEPICTED ON RELIEF MAPS IN THIS ORNATE WOOD BOX. AUSTRIAN ARCHIVES/SCALA, FLORENCE

ISLAND PARADISE

[illegible] love with Corfu following her first visit to the island in 1861. In 1890, when she was in her 50s, she again took refuge on the island, completing this white-marble summer palace overlooking the city of Corfu. Taking its inspiration from the Greek hero Achilles, it was named the Achilleion.

REINHARD SCHMID/FOTOTECA 9X12

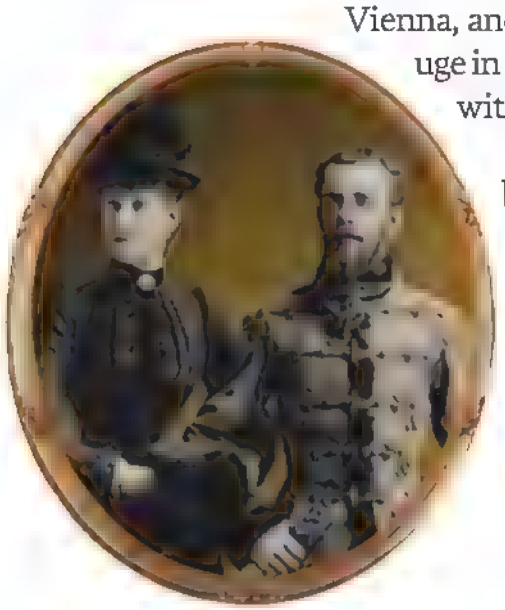
FRANZ JOSEF AND SISI ARE CROWNED KING AND QUEEN OF HUNGARY IN THE MATTHIAS CHURCH, BUDAPEST. COLOR LITHOGRAPH, 1867

AUSTRIAN ARCHIVES/SCALA, FLORENCE

Hungarian Heroine

In the aftermath of an uprising in 1848, Austria suppressed Hungary's constitutional privileges. After she became empress, Sisi became fascinated with Hungarian culture and politics, and she mastered the Hungarian language. She sympathized with the rebellious Hungarian aristocrats and became close with the dashing Gyula Andrássy, a Hungarian patriot and former rebel.

Although her support for a man the Viennese court regarded as a traitor provoked animosity, Elisabeth's actions played a role in keeping Hungary within the empire. After Austria's defeat by the Prussians at the Battle of Königgrätz, in 1866, the Prussian armies advanced toward Vienna, and Elisabeth took refuge in Buda (now Budapest) with her children.



The trust displayed by the empress in seeking protection in Hungarian territory was regarded as a gesture of goodwill by many Hungarians. Soon after, and thanks to Sisi's intense lobbying, Andrássy negotiated terms with Franz Josef that granted Hungary its own constitution. The empire was reconfigured as two sovereign states, Austria and Hungary, with separate regimes and governments but united under a single crown.

On June 8, 1867, Franz Josef and Elisabeth were crowned as constitutional monarchs of Hungary. As a demonstration of their goodwill, the Hungarian people gave the couple a gift of the baroque castle of Godollo on the outskirts of Buda. One year later, Sisi gave birth to her last and most doted upon child, the Archduchess Maria Valerie, in this castle.

Elisabeth spent long periods of time at Godollo with her children. Years later, after Gisela was married and Rudolf had started his military training, Sisi started another intensive round of travels, this time accompanied by Maria Valerie.

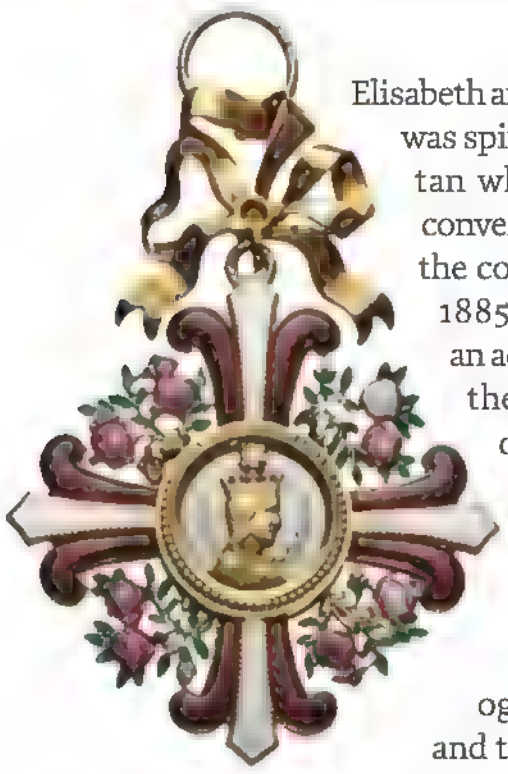
In 1874, using the pseudonym Countess of Hohenembs to ensure anonymity, Sisi embarked on a European tour with her younger daughter. The empress and her husband had begun living separate lives. The different natures of

RUDOLF, SISI'S SON AND THE HEIR TO THE IMPERIAL THRONE, AND HIS WIFE, STÉPHAN E OF BELGIUM AKG/ALBUM

HUNGARIAN MONARCHS
The Castle of Buda dominates this panoramic view of Budapest. Behind, rises the Matthias Church, where Franz Josef and Sisi were crowned monarchs of Hungary in 1867.

RICHARD TAYLOR/FOTOTECA 9X12

SISI'S COFFIN S BORNE THROUGH THE STREETS OF GENEVA ON SEPTEMBER 14, 1898 THE EMPRESS'S BODY WAS THEN TRANSPORTED BY RAIL FOR BURIAL IN V ENNA.
AKG/ALBUM



A MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF ELISABETH, FOUNDED BY FRANZ JOSEF IN 1898 IN MEMORY OF SISI
ALBUM

Elisabeth and Franz Joseph—she was spirited and cosmopolitan while he was dry and conventional—had pushed the couple apart. When in 1885 Katharina Schratt, an actress from the Burgtheater of Vienna, became a fixture in the emperor's life, Sisi accepted the relationship. She felt no jealousy for her husband, and recognized his loneliness and their incompatibility. In later years her views on marriage were forthright: "One is sold as a child at 15, and one takes an oath one does not understand but can never undo."

Violent Ends

Terrible tragedy struck in early 1889: Sisi's son and the heir to the throne, Crown Prince Rudolf, and Marie Vetsera, his 17-year-old lover, had been found dead in an apparent double suicide at a hunting lodge in Mayerling. The "Mayerling Incident" became a sensational scandal across Europe. The death of Franz Josef's heir plunged the empire into succession crisis, and the empress into a deep depression over the loss of her son. After Rudolf's death, Sisi traveled frantically, taking refuge once again in Corfu, where she had her summer palace, the Achilleion, built.

In the fall of 1898, Sisi visited Geneva, and on September 10, she walked to the lakeside to take the ferry to Montreux. Another pedestrian bumped into her; she felt a sharp pain against her rib but continued to walk to the ferry. She had been stabbed in the chest with a homemade knife. Once on board, the 60-year-old empress fainted from blood loss and died that same night.

Her murderer, an Italian anarchist called Luigi Luccheni said in his confession that he personally had nothing against the empress, only that he wished to kill a royal. Sisi wanted to be buried on the shores of the Mediterranean, but Franz Josef overruled her wishes and laid her instead in the Capuchin Crypt in Vienna. And there she lies still, at the heart of a city that she never loved and which never understood her.

MARÍA PILAR QUERALT DEL HIERRO IS AUTHOR OF A BOOK (IN SPANISH), *THE SHADOW OF SISI*, WHICH EXPLORES THE IMPACT OF SISI ON THE AUSTRIAN ROYAL FAMILY

DEATH IN GENEVA
A color etching re-creates the moment when Sisi was fatally stabbed by an Italian anarchist in September 1898. The violent death of the empress, famed for her beauty and the tragic death of her son, caused a sensation in Europe

ORONOZ/ALBUM

GIRL ON FILM

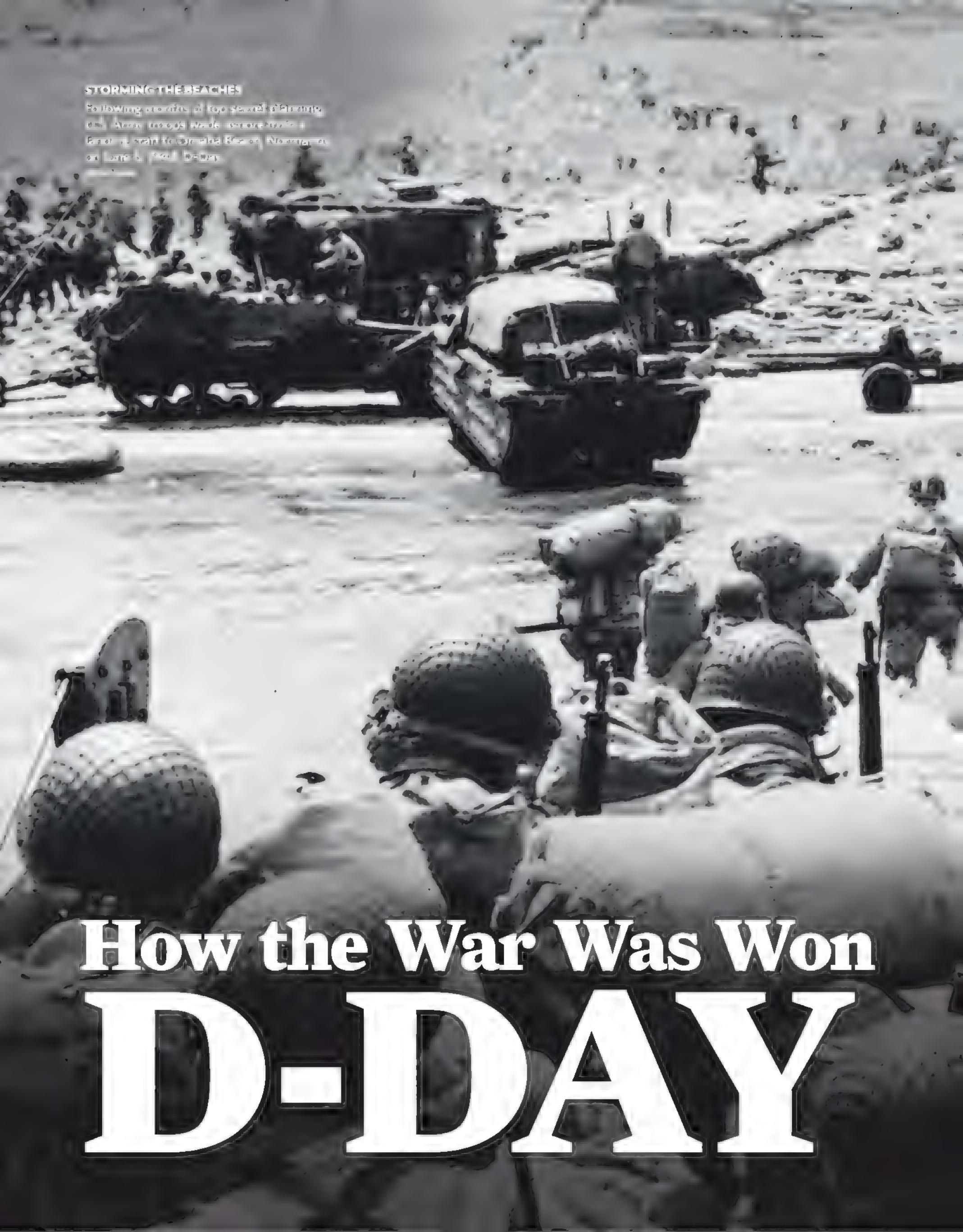
Born soon after the birth of photography, Sisi understood the power of the camera. Where it burnished her image, she happily posed, but—like many female royals since—she also resented its intrusion.

① *Royal Rebuff*
The paparazzi is nothing new. This photo of the empress on horseback, obscuring her face with a fan, was taken in 1865, when she was 27.

1 AND 3: AUSTRIAN ARCHIVES/SCALA, FLORENCE. 2: ALINARI/GETTY IMAGES

② *Teen Queen*
Sisi was 15 when this picture was taken by the well-known German photographer Alois Löcherer in Bavaria, in 1853, the year she became engaged to her cousin the emperor Franz Josef.

③ *Creature Comfort*
Sisi was a great animal lover and there are many photographs of her with her dogs. In this one taken in 1867, she appears with her dog Houseguard, a pet she had for many years and for whom she felt a special affection.



How the War Was Won

D-DAY

THE AXIS AND ALLIES HAD BEEN SPARRING FOR SUPREMACY FOR FIVE YEARS WHEN DAWN BROKE ON JUNE 6, 1944, ALONG THE BEACHES OF NORTHERN FRANCE. THE BATTLES FOUGHT IN NORMANDY THAT DAY TURNED THE TIDE, BEGINNING THE LIBERATION OF EUROPE AND THE END OF WORLD WAR II.

NEIL KAGAN AND STEPHEN G. HYSLOP

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER EISENHOWER (CENTER) MEETS WITH TOP OFFICERS IN EARLY 1944 AFTER ARRIVING IN LONDON.

POPPERFOTO/GETTY IMAGES

The Allied invasion of German-occupied France that began in the early hours of June 6, 1944, was long in the making. By gaining supremacy in the Atlantic in 1943, the Allies had cleared the way for a huge buildup of American troops and equipment in Great Britain. Between January and June 1944, nine million tons of supplies and 800,000 soldiers crossed the Atlantic from the United States to bolster the invasion, designated Operation Overlord.

Meanwhile, Allied pilots exploited their hard-won superiority over the diminished German Luftwaffe by blasting French railways and bridges to keep their foes from rushing reserves to Normandy when troops landed there. Anglo-American commanders battle tested in North Africa and Italy, including American Dwight D. Eisenhower and Bernard Montgomery of the United Kingdom, prepared to lead invasion troops against their old foe, German general Erwin Rommel, assigned to strengthen French coastal defenses while the bulk of the German Army struggled to hold back resurgent Soviets on the Eastern Front.

The German Wall

Planning for Operation Overlord began in London more than a year before the invasion

Piercing the Wall

THE GERMAN DEFENSIVE BARRIER known as the Atlantic Wall included two areas that met the requirements for a massive Allied invasion—beaches that were accessible to landing craft, tanks, and other vehicles and were not too far from British ports or from Germany, the ultimate objective. Suitable beaches around Calais were only 30 miles from the port of Dover and 200 miles from the German border, but their proximity to the Reich meant that they were well defended. The other promising landing site—between the fortified ports of Le Havre and Cherbourg in Normandy—was farther from Germany but was chosen because beaches there were less heavily defended.

KENNETH W. RENDELL INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF WORLD WAR

PLANNING THE LANDING
A confidential folder (left) of the type used for the Allied planning of Overlord. Rommel, pictured below (front row, third from left) inspecting a beach near Calais in April 1944, made sure that obstacles laid there were also installed on the Normandy coast. His request to defend that coast with armored divisions to meet invaders head-on was denied.

PRISMA BY DUKAS PRESSEAGENTUR GMBH/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

ALLIED ASSAULT ON EUROPE

JUNE 5, 1944
After postponing the invasion of Normandy because of bad weather, Supreme Allied Commander Dwight Eisenhower gives the go-ahead.

JUNE 6, 1944
Allied troops land in Normandy on D-Day, suffering nearly 10,000 casualties but securing all five beaches assigned to them.

JUNE 9, 1944
The Germans receive intelligence, based on false reports, that the landings are a diversion. German forces remain around Calais, awaiting an invasion there, until July.

JULY 1944
Allied troops expand their foothold in France, culminating in the launch of Operation Cobra on July 25.

THE ATLANTIC WALL
June 5, 1944

German territory or German-occupied territory, June 5, 1944
German ally or dependent state, June 5, 1944
Allied territory, June 5, 1944
Allied-held territory, June 5, 1944
Neutral state, June 5, 1944
Front line, June 5, 1944
Atlantic Wall
Fortress
Strongpoint

0 mi 100 200
0 km 100 200

June 1944 features are shown.
Present-day city names are in parentheses.

NG MAPS

North Sea

Bergen
REICHSKOMMISSARIAT NORWAY
Oslo
SWEDEN
Stockholm
Stavanger
Arendal
Kristiansand
Göteborg
Frederikshavn
Hansted
Aalborg
Viborg
Århus
Glasgow
Edinburgh
DENMARK
Copenhagen
Malmö
Esbjerg
Jutland
Belfast
Kiel
York
Dublin
IRELAND
Liverpool
Manchester
Bremerhaven
Hamburg
Stettin (Szczecin)
Oder
Frisia
Wilhelmshaven
Elbe
UNITED KINGDOM
REICHSKOMMISSARIAT NETHERLANDS
BERLIN
Hanover
Birmingham
Amsterdam
Arnhem
Vlissingen (Flushing)
Rotterdam
Leipzig
Dresden
Düsseldorf
Cardiff
LONDON
Bristol
Dover
Antwerp
Essen
Southampton
Calais
Dunkirk
Brussels
Cologne
GERMANY
Plymouth
Portsmouth
Portland
Falmouth
Boulogne-sur-Mer
Pas-de-Calais
REICHSKOMMISSARIAT BELGIUM AND NORTHERN FRANCE
Prague
PROT. OF BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA
Cherbourg
Le Havre
Amiens
Frankfurt
CHANNEL ISLANDS (German occ.)
Rouen
Reims
Nürnberg
Caen
Normandy
PARIS
Stuttgart
Brest
Brittany
St.-Malo
FRANCE (German occupied)
Munich
Lorient
Orléans
OPERATIONAL ZONE OF THE ALPINE FOOTHILLS (German occ.)
OPERATIONAL ZONE OF THE ADRIATIC LITTORAL (German occ.)
St.-Nazaire
Loire
Dijon
Zürich
LIECH.
Bern
SWITZ.
Bolzano
La Pallice
Vichy
Trieste
Salò
Venice
Limoges
Lyon
Milan
ITALY (ITALIAN SOCIAL REPUBLIC) (German puppet state)
Bordeaux
VICHY FRANCE (German occupied)
Turin
Genoa
SAN MARINO
Florence
Garonne
MONACO
Bayonne
Toulouse
Marseille
Toulon
Pyrenees
Corsica (Free France)
VATICAN CITY
ROME
ANDORRA
PORTUGAL
SPAIN
Mediterranean Sea

"I HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN YOUR COURAGE, DEVOTION TO DUTY AND SKILL IN BATTLE. WE WILL ACCEPT NOTHING LESS THAN FULL VICTORY!"

GEN. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER,
SUPREME COMMANDER,
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

took place. Allied staff officers led by Lt. Gen. Frederick Morgan debated where to pierce the Atlantic Wall, German coastal fortifications extending from Norway to the southwest coast of France. The shortest route to Germany lay across the Strait of Dover (Pas-de-Calais), but landing around Calais meant attacking the strongest sector of the Atlantic Wall.

Morgan and staff decided instead to land on the coast of Normandy, which lay farther from Germany but was less heavily fortified. Their original plan, drawn up in strict secrecy, called for three divisions to come ashore on a narrow front on D-Day. But when Eisenhower and Montgomery arrived in London in early 1944 to serve respectively as supreme commander and field commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force destined for Normandy, they altered the invasion plan based on amphibious operations in Italy.

Five divisions would land on D-Day on a broader front, supported by three airborne divisions and followed by an immense influx of men and material. The huge commitment of landing craft and other resources to Normandy meant that a second invasion of France along the Mediterranean coast, which was meant to coincide with Overlord to prevent Germans in the south from being shifted to Normandy, would instead take place a few months after Overlord unfolded.

Germany's Defense

German commanders did not ignore the potential threat to Normandy. Rommel—in charge of Army Group B under Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt, German commander in chief in the West—laced beaches there with mines as well as obstructions that would force landing craft to disgorge troops at low tide, leaving them more exposed to enemy fire. Rommel wanted panzer divisions deployed at likely landing sites in Normandy to repulse invaders before they established a beachhead and were reinforced. "Everything we have must be on the coast," he insisted.

The Commanders

THE ALLIES' meticulous plans to invade Normandy in 1944 were overseen by Dwight D. Eisenhower, appointed supreme commander in Europe the year before. In addition to a formidable military record, the future 34th president of the United States inspired his troops with his warmth and rousing addresses. Second in command was Britain's Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery, who defeated German forces, under the command of Erwin Rommel, in North Africa, a major turning point of the war. Hitler later entrusted Rommel with defense of France's channel coast, where, as D-Day dawned, he and Montgomery once again faced one another as the war's dramatic endgame began.

BRITISH FIELD MARSHAL B. L. MONTGOMERY POINTING TO NORMANDY IN A 1945 PAINTING BY FRANK O. SALISBURY

GRANGER/ALBUM

GERMAN FIELD MARSHAL ERWIN ROMMEL INSPECTING THE ATLANTIC DEFENSES IN FRANCE, IN 1943 OR 1944

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

FIRST LT. WALLACE C. STROBEL AND THE PARATROOPERS OF THE U.S. 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION LISTEN TO GENERAL EISENHOWER BEFORE THE DEPARTURE FOR NORMANDY. THE GENERAL'S ORDER TO THE TROOPS (RIGHT) FOR JUNE 6, 1944, WAS DISTRIBUTED TO THE 175,000-MEMBER EXPEDITIONARY FORCE THE NIGHT BEFORE THE INVASION.

JOHN PARROT/STOCKTREK/ALBUM

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

NATIONAL ARCHIVES/EISENHOWER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

COLLECTION OF JOE VAGHI

GOING ASHORE
War photographer Robert Capa accompanied the first wave of troops as they faced enemy fire (above). Guiding them were men like Ensign Joseph Vaghi, a beachmaster at Omaha Beach, who had a top secret map (right) to show where troops and equipment would deploy along the coast.

©ROBERT CAPA. ©INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF PHOTOGRAPHY/MAGNUM PHOTOS/CONTACTO

Rundstedt disagreed, and Hitler decided to hold most German armored forces in reserve under his own control until the invasion took place. Only one panzer division guarded the Normandy coast beforehand. An elaborate Allied deception campaign called Operation Bodyguard—which included simulating phantom divisions and feeding false reports to Berlin from German agents under British control—led Hitler to view landings at Normandy as a diversion, which would be followed by a massive Allied thrust across the Strait of Dover.

Dawning of D-Day

The invasion of Normandy was preceded by daring coastal and aerial reconnaissance that yielded detailed charts of the five landing zones: Gold, Juno, Sword, Utah, and Omaha beaches.

Omaha Beach, the largest of the of the D-Day attack zones, was subdivided into areas which were code-named Charlie, Dog (divided into Green, White, and Red sections), Easy (divided into Green and Red sections), and Fox (divided into Green and Red sections).

Foul weather forced Eisenhower to postpone Overlord until June 6. Two more weeks would pass before the moon and tides were again favorable for paratroopers landing inland before dawn and soldiers landing on the beaches at daybreak.

St. Laurent-sur-Mer
les Moulins
EASY RED
EASY GREEN
DOG RED
NOTE to COXSWAIN or NAVIGATOR
OMAHA BEACH - EAST (Colleville-sur-Mer)
1755
TOP SECRET - BIGOT

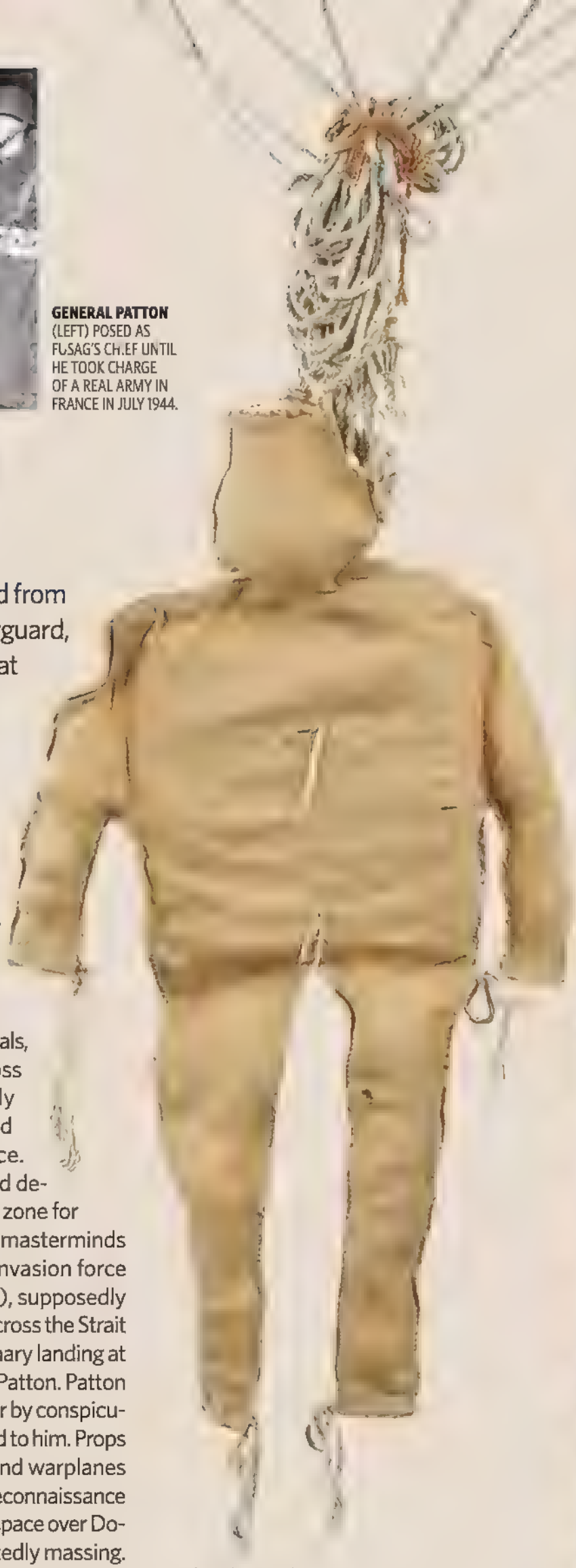
PHOTOQUEST/GETTY IMAGES

GENERAL PATTON (LEFT) POSED AS FUSAG'S CHIEF UNTIL HE TOOK CHARGE OF A REAL ARMY IN FRANCE IN JULY 1944.

Overlord and Bodyguard

Operation Overlord was shielded from the Germans by Operation Bodyguard, inspired by Churchill's remark that truth in wartime should always be "attended by a bodyguard of lies." That meant simulating preparations for landings elsewhere to keep German forces dispersed.

BODYGUARD DECEPTIONS fed Hitler's fear of invasions across much of occupied Europe, from Norway to Greece. But as indicated by stout defenses around Calais and deciphered enemy radio signals, the Germans viewed an invasion across the Strait of Dover as the most likely outcome—an expectation that Allied intelligence officers helped reinforce. While planners for Overlord produced detailed maps of the Normandy landing zone for Montgomery's 21st Army Group, the masterminds of Bodyguard concocted a fictional invasion force called FUSAG (First U.S. Army Group), supposedly consisting of 50 divisions preparing to cross the Strait of Dover after Montgomery's diversionary landing at Normandy, and led by Gen. George S. Patton. Patton played the part of FUSAG's commander by conspicuously reviewing a few real units assigned to him. Props for the hoax included dummy tanks and warplanes that would look convincing if German reconnaissance pilots managed to penetrate British air space over Dover, where Patton's legions were reportedly massing. The FUSAG deception was sustained by cunning double agents like Juan Pujol, who had enlisted as a German spy with the intention of serving the Allies. He filed false reports that helped keep German troops tied down at Calais awaiting the fictitious army group long after Overlord unfolded.



STRAW MAN
The tactical deceptions underpinning FUSAG included dropping dummies by parachute, such as the one above, to distract Germans from incursions by real paratroopers.

KENNETH W. RENDELL, INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF WORLD WAR

BODYGUARDS
Among the crafty double agents who sold FUSAG to German spymasters were, from top to bottom, Dusko Popov of Yugoslavia, Spaniard Juan Pujol, Russian-born Nathalie "Lily" Sergueiew, and Roman Garby-Czerniawski of Poland.

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE U.K.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE U.K.

COURTESY GERRY CZERNIAWSKI

U.S. SECRET
BRITISH. MOST SECRET
Copy No 100
SITUATION D+2 (First Light)
1. Five Divs. One Airborne Div & Three Tk Bdes plus overheads landed
2. Estimated number of enemy Divs shown in BLUE
US FORMATIONS indicated thus
BRITISH FORMATIONS
3 Air Situation. No airfields yet available
One Infantry Division
(2) CORPS
(Two Divs One Tk Bde)
(1) CORPS
(Three Divs Two Tk Bdes)
Airborne Div
Up To Four Divisions (Three Panzer & One Infantry)

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PLANS AND DECOYS

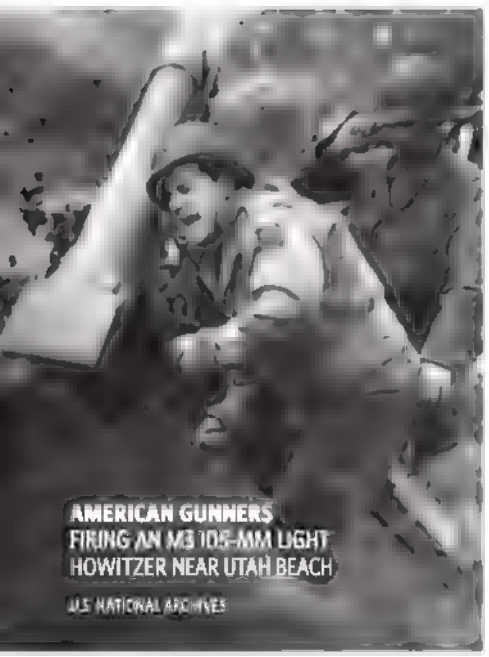
The Overlord chart (above) forecasts the situation two days after Allied forces landed, while a map of Utah Beach (left), based on aerial photos, was used to plan landings there. To divert German attention from these real plans, dummy tanks and planes, like those pictured to the right, were placed across from Calais in the staging area of the fictional FUSAG.

ROGET VIOLET/GETTY IMAGES

U.S NATIONAL ARCHIVES

SUPPLY LINE
Landing craft disgorge tanks and trucks at Omaha Beach on June 8, 1944 (above), under barrage balloons whose mooring cables deterred enemy aircraft.

U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES



AMERICAN GUNNERS FIRING AN M3 105-MM LIGHT HOWITZER NEAR UTAH BEACH

U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The decision to proceed on the sixth, during a predicted lull in the storm, caught German commanders by surprise. But some Allied landing craft and amphibious tanks sank in swells, and men who stayed afloat were seasick. Nausea mingled with dread as they disembarked under fire. "Many were hit in the water and drowned," recalled Sgt. Bob Slaughter of the U.S. 29th Infantry Regiment. "There were dead men in the water and live men acting dead, letting the tide take them in."

Nearly 3,000 Americans were killed or wounded on Omaha Beach, most of them in the first few hours. As shellfire from Allied warships began silencing enemy gunners on the cliffs, however, soldiers rallied and pushed inland through ravines toward Colleville-sur-Mer. Americans who landed at Utah Beach faced little resistance, and British and Canadian troops advanced several miles inland from their beaches and withstood a late-day counterattack by the 21st Panzer Division. When Rommel returned that night to Normandy—after celebrating his wife's birthday during the storm he thought would preclude an invasion—his worst fears were realized. He had warned a fellow officer that their only chance was to stop the enemy in the water. Now nearly 160,000 Allied troops had landed.

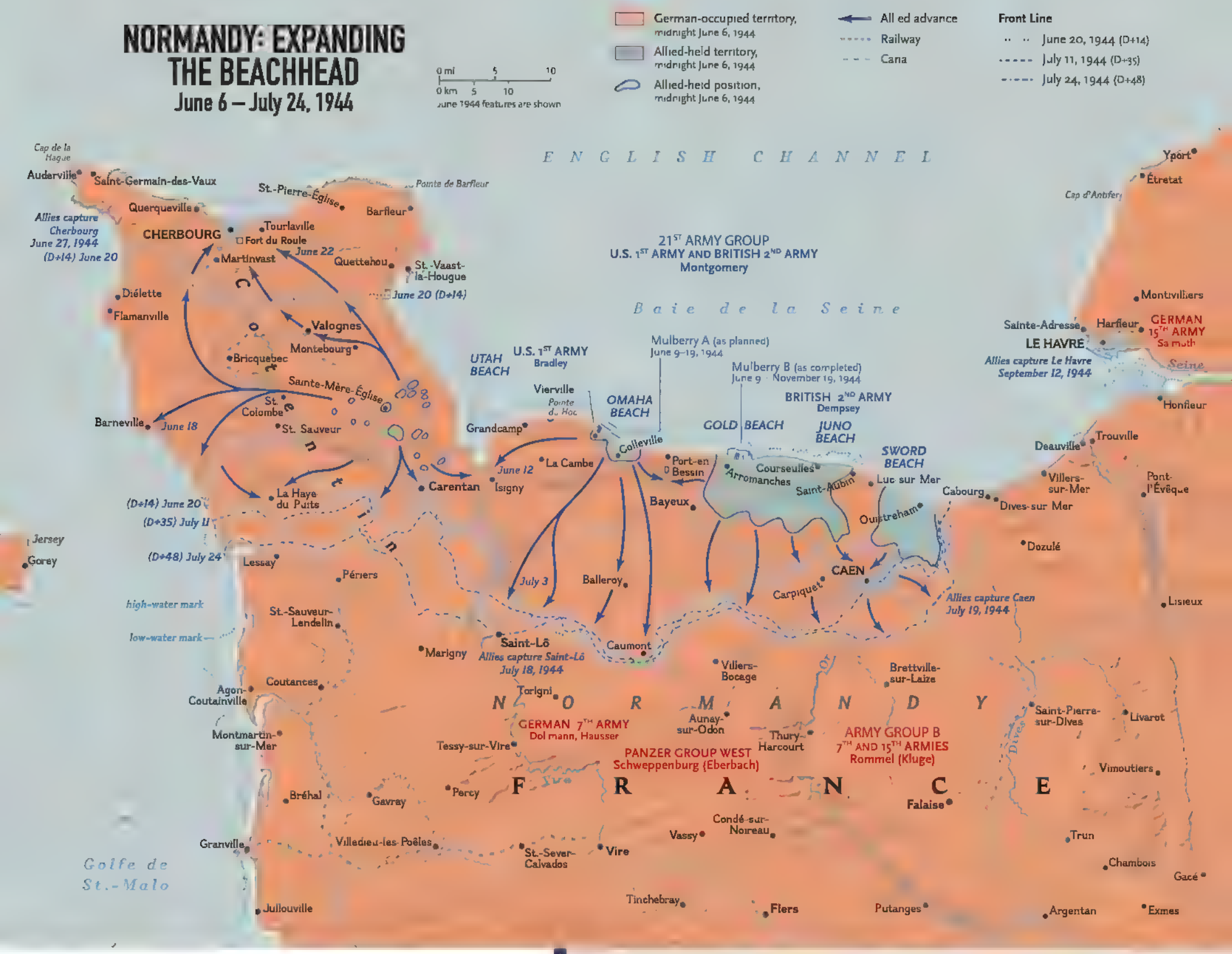
Expanding the Beachhead

Following D-Day, the Allies had to transport troops and supplies to Normandy in vast amounts without access to a deepwater port. Germans assumed that their foes would require such a port, which lent credence to Allied deceptions portraying the Normandy landings as a diversion, to be followed by a big push aimed at a deeper port like Calais.

While the German 15th Army remained in place around Calais to defend against that anticipated thrust, the Allies reinforced their Normandy beachhead by constructing artificial harbors called mulberries, using components prefabricated in British ports and towed across the English Channel.

Mulberry A, completed off Omaha Beach in mid-June and linked to shore by a pontoon bridge, was wrecked a few days later by one of the worst storms to hit the coast that season. Mulberry B, constructed off Gold Beach near Arromanches, withstood that storm and helped boost Allied strength in Normandy to one million men by early July.

Reinforcements for the troops who landed on D-Day were essential because expanding the beachhead proved even tougher than establishing it on June 6. Inland from the beaches lay



NG MAPS

the forbidding *bocage*, consisting of low fields surrounded by dense hedgerows that sheltered German snipers, machine gunners, and anti-tank units. Not until June 27 did American troops seize the deepwater port of Cherbourg, which German demolition teams rendered useless until later that year.

Another important objective, heavily defended Caen, was not taken on D-Day, as Montgomery planned, and held out against repeated attacks. On June 13, the British Seventh Armored Division tried to outflank Caen but was repulsed at Villers-Bocage by elements of the First and Second SS Panzer Divisions. Allied bombers blasted Caen on July 6, killing many French civilians but few Germans, who withdrew south of the city and resisted tenaciously

The Slow Breakthrough

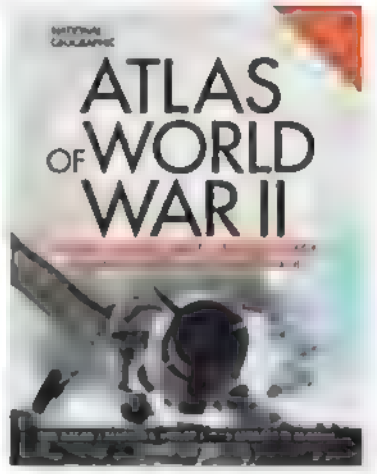
THE MAP ABOVE shows the slow expansion of the Allied beachhead in Normandy from D-Day (June 6, 1944) to July 24. To the west, troops of the U.S. First Army—led by Omar Bradley and later part of his 12th Army Group—fought their way in June up the Cotentin Peninsula to the deepwater port of Cherbourg. To the east, British and Canadian forces of Montgomery's 21st Army Group met with stiff opposition from German panzer divisions around Caen. American soldiers encountered similar resistance as they pushed south from Carentan, below Utah Beach. Although the tangled hedgerows impeded their progress, they took the town of Saint-Lô on July 18. From here, Operation Cobra was launched on July 25, which successfully broke through the German lines.

HEDGED IN
American troops advance slowly through the lanes of Normandy in summer 1944 (above). The thick, high hedgerows provided cover for German forces, and greatly impeded progress in the days following D-Day.
PHOTO 12/ALAMY/AC

as Montgomery tried to punch through their defenses. Although held in check, his forces kept several German armored divisions tied down while American troops prepared to launch Operation Cobra from Saint-Lô, west of Caen, and break out of the beachhead.

Beginning of the End

Although the landings on D-Day were less costly than Allied leaders feared, American forces destined for Omaha Beach paid a dreadful price before securing that sector. Casualties mounted as invasion forces advanced inland and met with fierce resistance. Not until late July did they break out, aided by devastating air raids that gouged holes in enemy lines through which armor advanced, including tanks of Patton's U.S. Third Army. On August 15, a second Allied invasion designated Operation Dragoon unfolded on the French Mediterranean coast. Resistance groups took up arms, and some began liberating Paris before Allied troops entered the city in late August.



This article is excerpted from *Atlas of World War II*, published by National Geograph c Books Copyright 2018 © National Geographic

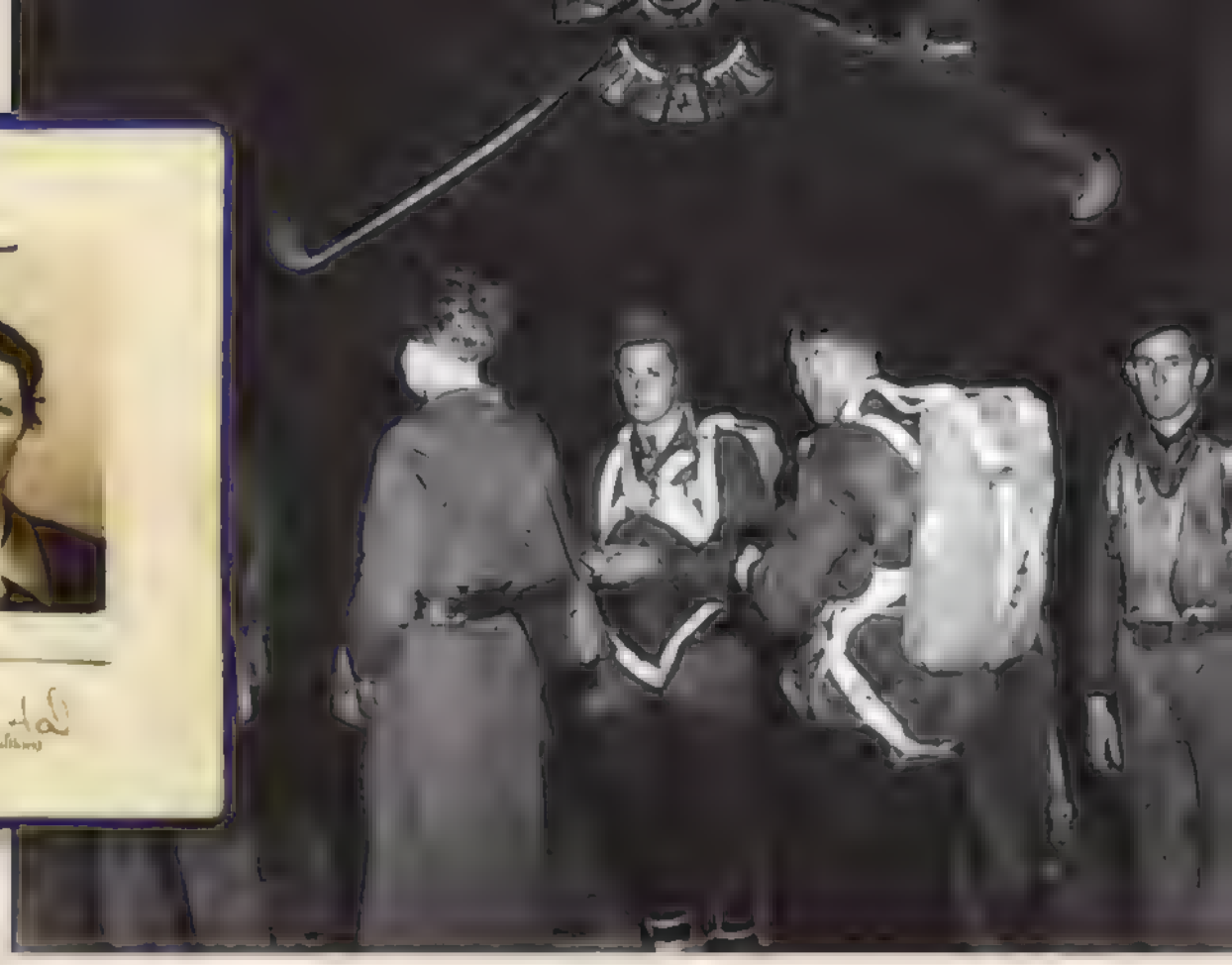
The offensive in France and the Low Countries coincided with a massive onslaught by the Red Army, whose troops advanced into German-occupied Poland before invading Germany proper by entering East Prussia. Hitler refused to concede defeat and launched a desperate counterattack at year's end against the Western Allies, whose advance had stalled as they ran short of supplies and came up against the formidable West Wall (Siegfried Line) along the German border. The resulting Battle of the Bulge, won in January 1945, delayed their advance across the Rhine until March while vengeful Soviets closed on Berlin. "We may be destroyed," Hitler had remarked earlier, "but if we are, we shall drag a world with us—a world in flames." On April 30, with Berlin in flames and about to fall to the Russians, he committed suicide. A week later, Germany surrendered unconditionally.

NEIL KAGAN AND **STEPHEN G. HYSLOP** HAVE PARTNERED ON MANY H STORY BOOKS, INCLUDING *EYEWITNESS TO THE CIVIL WAR, ATLAS OF THE CIVIL WAR, EYEWITNESS TO WORLD WAR II* AND *THE SECRET HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II*

IN MEMORIAM
Overlooking the Easy Red sector of Omaha Beach, Normandy, a memorial honors the 627 men of the U.S. First Infantry Division who were killed between June 6 and July 24, 1944.

NCAMERASTOCK/A..AMY/AC

CIA MAG NG AND PUBL SH NG SERVICES C A MU SE UM (PHOTO) COURTESY LORNA CAT. NG (. CENSE)



U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Fueling French Resistance

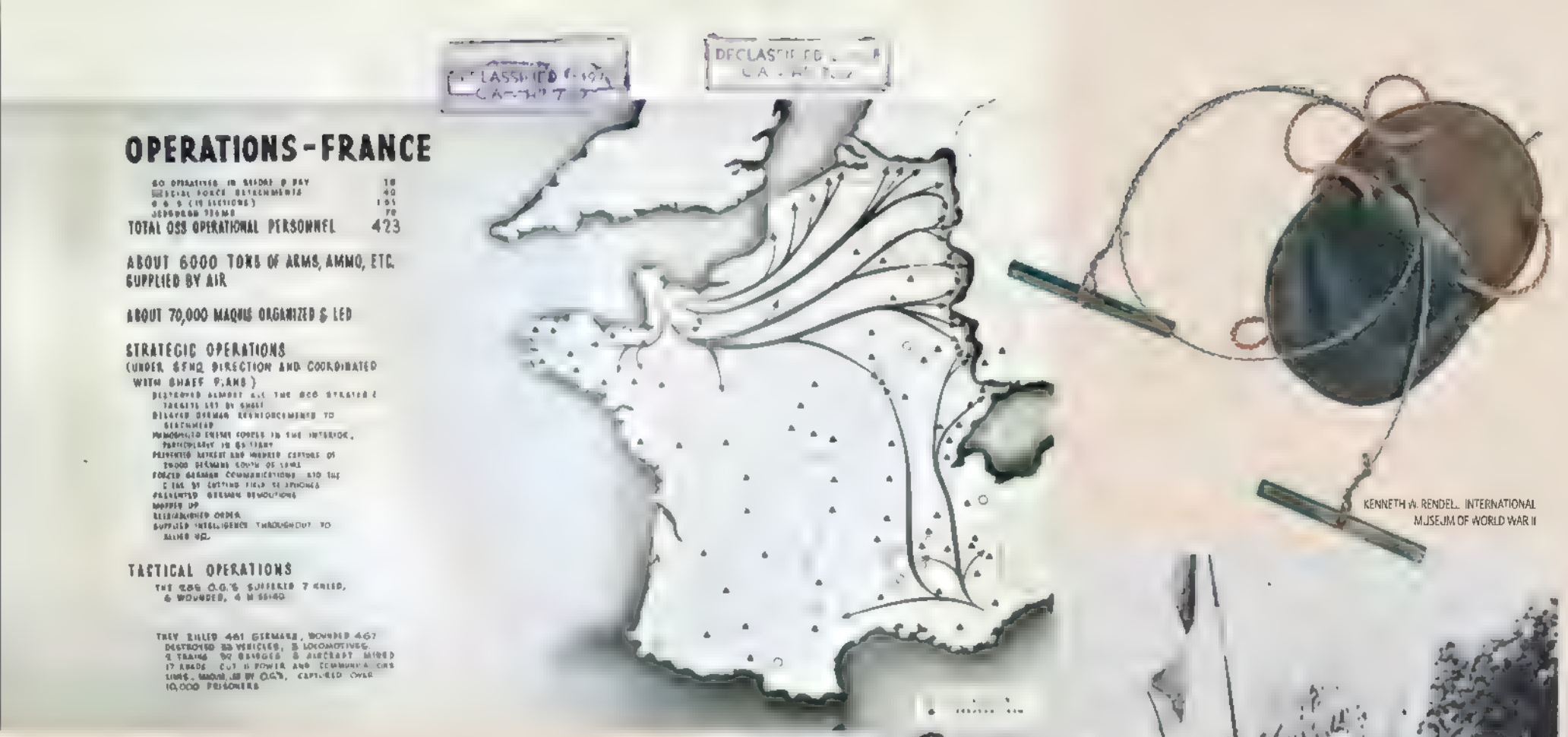
Before and after D-Day, agents of the OSS, its British counterpart the SOE, and the French government-in-exile armed French Resistance groups and organized attacks to hinder German opposition to the invasion.

IN HARM'S WAY
All Allied agents were at risk of being executed if seized behind German lines, whether they operated in civilian dress like Virginia Hall—pictured (above left) on a driver's license she obtained in Estonia in 1938—or in uniforms like the Jedburgh team members (above), about to take off from England in a B-24 that would drop them into France.

AMONG THOSE AGENTS was American-born Virginia Hall (above left), who had aided Resistance groups in France for the SOE before fleeing to Spain in late 1942 to evade the Gestapo, whose officers knew she had a wooden leg, which made her conspicuous. In early 1944 she transferred to the OSS, dyed her hair gray, and returned furtively to France disguised as a lame old peasant woman to arrange by radio air drops of weapons to French guerrillas known as the maquis—a perilous assignment because Germans monitored radio transmissions and could trace them to their source.

Although the Gestapo was on the lookout for Hall and considered her "one of the most dangerous Allied agents in France," she avoided arrest and linked up after D-Day with one of the many Jedburgh teams, consisting of OSS, SOE, and Free French operatives who parachuted behind enemy lines to coordinate assaults by partisans on German troops and their lines of communication. Trained for combat, Jedburgh teams carried weapons, including pistols concealed about their persons and small blades that could be held in the hand. Like the Allied agents who aided them, French partisans defied German forces at great risk. On June 10, troops of the Second SS Panzer Division ("Das Reich"), which was redeployed from southern France to Normandy right after D-Day, retaliated for assaults that slowed them by slaughtering nearly the entire population of the small town of Oradour-sur-Glane in central France. Among the victims were more than 400 women and children, locked in a church into which troops tossed grenades. Expected to reach Normandy within a few days, that SS division did not arrive there for a few weeks, too late to repulse the invasion.

COLT PISTOL IN A SHOULDER HOLSTER USED BY JEDBURGH AGENTS
KENNETH W. RENDELL INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF WORLD WAR II


OPERATIONS - FRANCE
TOTAL OSS OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL 423
ABOUT 6000 TONS OF ARMS, AMMO, ETC. SUPPLIED BY AIR
ABOUT 70,000 MAQUIS ORGANIZED & LED
STRATEGIC OPERATIONS
(UNDER SHAEF DIRECTION AND COORDINATED WITH SHAEF PLANS)
TACTICAL OPERATIONS
THEY KILLED 461 GERMANS, WOUNDED 467
DESTROYED 33 VEHICLES, 3 LOCOMOTIVES,
KENNETH W. RENDELL. INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF WORLD WAR II

PATHS OF LIBERATION

An OSS chart (above) lists the agency's contributions to the liberation of France, including operations launched before and after the invasion of Normandy and the Allied landings in southern France in August 1944.

U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES

ORONOZ/ALBUM

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SPY GEAR

Tools and arms were supplied to agents or French Resistance fighters known as the maquis (center) pictured near Paris in August 1944. These devices included a garrote (top right), used to choke opponents; time fuses (above); and a radio set concealed in a suitcase (right), used to report on German forces in Normandy before D-Day.

The Search for Bubastis, Egypt's Sacred City of Cats

Following clues left by the classical Greek historian Herodotus, 19th-century scholars tracked down the site of the city sacred to Bastet, the cat goddess of ancient Egypt.

Southeast of the modern Egyptian city of Zagazig are the red granite ruins of a city sacred to the followers of the cat goddess Bastet. She was worshipped for thousands of years in ancient Egypt, and her popularity peaked during the 22nd dynasty, whose pharaohs built her a magnificent temple in the city, then named Per-Bast.

This city is referenced in the Bible, sometimes by its Hebrew name of Pi-beseth.

In chapter 30 of Ezekiel, it is mentioned, along with Heliopolis, as a pagan shrine that will be destroyed by the wrath of God, but it is better known today by its Greek name, Bubastis.

After declining and falling into ruin over the millennia, this mysterious city captured the imagination of 19th-century European scholars who flocked to the Nile Delta in search of it. Guided by intriguing hints from classical accounts, they wanted to find Bastet's city, unearth her glorious temple, and gain a clearer understanding of how the cat goddess played such an important role throughout the long history of ancient Egypt.

Divine Felines

Traces of Bastet's cult can be found as early as the 2nd dynasty (third millennium B.C.). Representations of the cat-headed deity became common in the Old Kingdom (ca 2575–2150 B.C.). She was initially regarded as a fearsome protector of the pharaoh and later of the dead.

Bastet's feline associations began to change around the same time as cats (known as *miu* or *miit*—he, or she, who mews) were being domesticated in Egypt. Bastet became more closely linked with nurturing and protective aspects while the mighty lion-headed goddess of war, Sekhmet, took on the characteristics of ferocity and vengeance. From the second millennium B.C., Bastet's appearance became less leonine, and she was consistently depicted as a domestic cat with a woman's body.

Finding Bubastis

One of the most important sources about the city is found in the works of Herodotus. In his fifth-century B.C. tour of Egypt, the Greek historian provided a vivid description of Bubastis, the Temple of Bastet, and the fervor of her worship: "In this city there is a temple very well worthy of mention, for though there are other temples which are larger and build with more cost, none more than this is a pleasure to the eyes."

He described the city's beauty and the noisy revelers traveling in boats

COPPER STATUE OF THE CAT GODDESS BASTET. EIGHTH TO FOURTH CENTURIES B.C.
MARY EVANS/SCALA, FLORENCE

1798–1801
During Napoleon's invasion of Egypt, Étienne-Louis Malus identifies the site of Bubastis at Tell Basta

1843
Egyptologist J. Gardner Wilkinson reports that Bubastis's ruins are endangered and have been pillaged.

1887
Described by Herodotus in the fifth century B.C., Bastet's temple is excavated by Édouard-Henri Naville.

1906
Railroad workers uncover two spectacular treasure troves near the Temple of Bastet

THE SITE OF TELL BASTA IN A DRAWING IN THE *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*, 1887.

BRIDGEMAN/AC

to Bubastis, "where they hold festival celebrating sacrifices, and more wine is consumed upon that festival than during the whole of the rest of the year."

After the Muslim conquest in the seventh century, Bubastis was abandoned, and the memory of its location was lost for centuries. To the French scholars who accompanied Napoleon on his 1798 expedition to Egypt, Herodotus's account served as an inspiration to locate it.

One of these scholars, Étienne-Louis Malus, spotted features in the Nile Delta mentioned by Herodotus, and found ruins nearby that he declared to be Bubastis. Lying northeast of Cairo, this site, known as Tell Basta, became the accepted spot where Bastet's city once stood.

As the discipline of Egyptology expanded in the 19th century, so did interest in the site. During an 1843 visit there, the English archaeologist John Gardner Wilkinson lamented that Bubastis was being damaged and that the temple ruins had been quarried for stone. Eventually, an excavation was undertaken by Swiss Egyptologist Édouard-Henri Naville in 1887, centered on studying the Temple of Bastet.

In London the press avidly followed the latest discoveries in Egypt. In 1887 the *St. James's Gazette* reported on a lecture given by Édouard Naville on Bubastis: "[He] ascertained that the temple,which for a long time had been considered as hopelessly lost, not only existed in ruins but had already yielded most interesting inscriptions . . . and believed very valuable discoveries would be made there."

(Continued on page 94)

"In [Bubastis] there is a temple very well worthy of mention . . . none more than this is a pleasure to the eyes."
—*Herodotus*

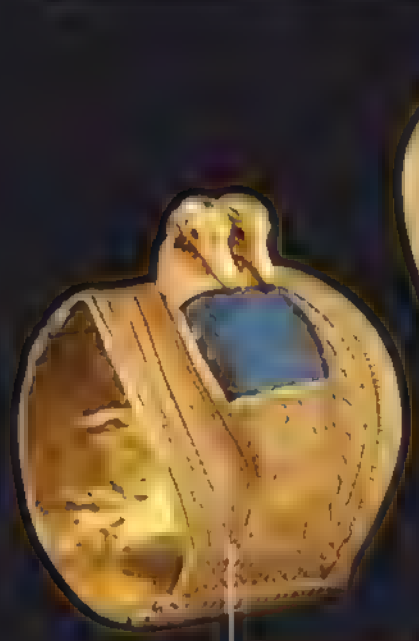
THE CAT GODDESS Bastet is depicted here with four kittens at her feet, symbolizing fertility. She holds a festive sistrum or rattle. This bronze statue, which dates from 900 to 600 B.C., was found at Bubastis and is now held at the British Museum, London.

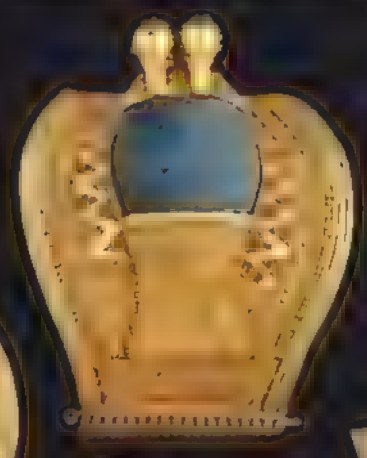
BRITISH MUSEUM/SCALA, FLORENCE

Precious Metals

THESE BEAUTIFUL OBJECTS were found in 1906 near the Temple of Bastet in Tell Basta, the excavation site identified as Bubastis. Bearing the names of rulers from the 19th dynasty (ca 1292 to 1189 B.C.), the presence of silver and gold attest to the economic importance of Bubastis as a city of wealth and commerce.

1: METROPOLITAN MUSEUM/SCALA, FLORENCE. 2, 3, AND 4: ARALDO DE LUCA. 5: METROPOLITAN MUSEUM/SCALA, FLORENCE





Gold armlets of embossed gold and lapis lazuli, bearing the name of Ramses II. 19th dynasty. Egyptian Museum, Cairo

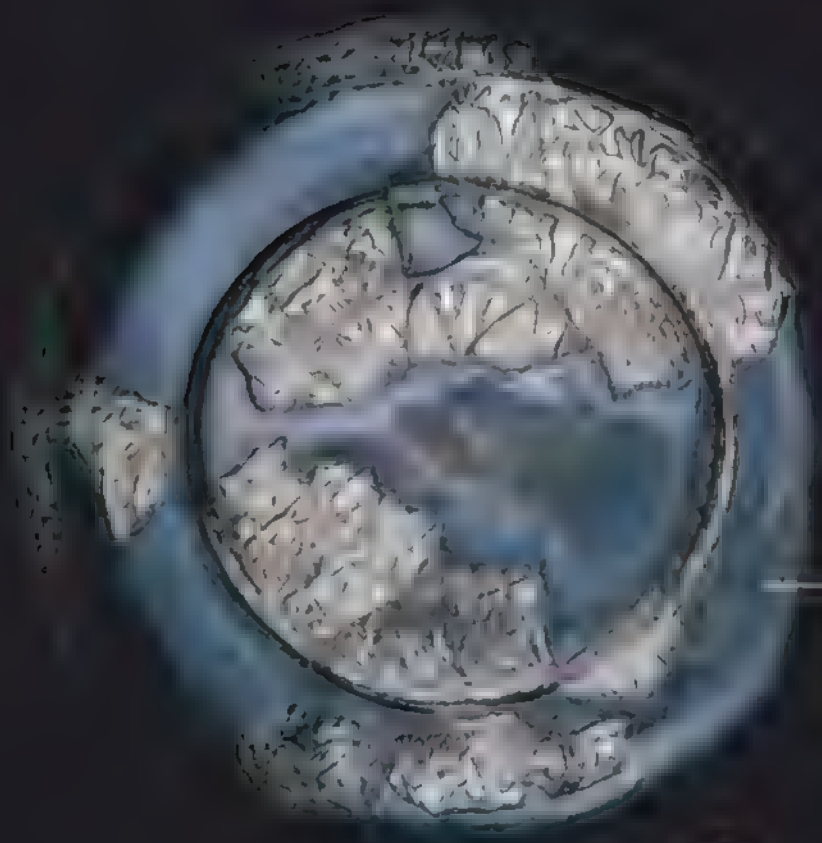
②

Vessel neck decorated with a golden depiction of the goddess Hathor flanked by two felines. 19th dynasty. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

①

④

Gold cup designed to resemble a lotus flower, inscribed with the name of Queen Tawosret. 19th dynasty. Egyptian Museum, Cairo



Silver platter decorated with scenes of cutting papyrus, harvesting fruit, catching birds. 19th dynasty. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

⑤

Golden vase featuring motifs of lotus flowers and birds with outstretched wings. 19th dynasty. Egyptian Museum, Cairo

③

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THE RED GRANITE RUINS of the Temple of Bastet lie near the outskirts of the modern city of Zagazig in the eastern Nile Delta.

M HENDERSON/ALAMY/AL

Naville, it turned out, was right. Both his study, and subsequent others, have revealed that the shrine (which incorporated older structures) was begun by Pharaoh Osorkon II in the ninth century B.C. His dynasty reigned from nearby Tanis, thus increasing the importance of Bubastis in the region, and adding yet more luster to the Bastet cult.

A GOLDEN, GOAT-SHAPED HANDLE ADORNS A SILVER CUP FOUND AT TELL BASTA IN 1906. EGYPTIAN MUSEUM, CA RO

ARALDO DE ..CA

The Bubastis Treasure

In the fall of 1906 an amazing find was made near the excavation site. A railroad was being built near Tell Basta, and workmen hit on a treasure hoard buried near the remains of the temple.

Inscriptions on many of the objects date to the 19th dynasty during the New Kingdom (ca 1539–1075 B.C.), before Osorkon II's reign and his restoration of Bastet's temple. It is not clear why the hoard was buried. Some scholars speculate it could have been buried for safekeeping, either by looters who never came back for it or by priests to protect it.

The treasures were of great value at the time. A gold cup sculpted to resemble lotus petals bears the name of the 12th-century B.C. queen Tawosret, the consort of Pharaoh Seti II. Tradition holds she was the queen of Egypt during the Trojan War. Scholars believe that the queen Alcandra mentioned in Homer's *Odyssey* was Tawosret.

Workers found another cache later that fall with more treasures, including gold armlets inscribed with the name of Ramses II. Aside from their beauty, these objects give great insight into the importance of Bubastis as a center of trade and commerce. Certain motifs on some of the objects are not Egyptian, and the presence of silver—unobtainable in Egypt—suggests extensive trade with Greece or kingdoms in Anatolia. Gold was brought from Nubia, its rarity associated with royalty.

—Irene Cordón

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Next Issue

JULIUS CAESAR PRESIDES OVER HIS TRIUMPH IN ROME IN A PAINTING BY ANDREA MANTEGNA. HAMPTON COURT PALACE, LONDON

AKG/ALBUM

FROM TRIUMPHS TO TRAGEDY

CELEBRATIONS of military victories, called triumphs, were a Roman commander's ultimate goal. Piqued that his rival Pompey had once been granted three, Julius Caesar mounted four within a month—three for victories in Gaul, Egypt, and Turkey, and a fourth for crushing Pompey himself. When this quadruple triumph was staged in Rome in 46 B.C., the splendor could not quiet whispers of unease at this ostentatious display, which would swell in the next two years, culminating in an assassination plot.

THE BEAUTY OF BOTTICELLI

BORN TO A HUMBLE FAMILY, Alessandro di Mariano Filipepi is known to the world by his nickname Botticelli—Little Barrel. His prodigious talents attracted the Medici of Florence, whose patronage was rewarded with paintings of such sublime power as "The Birth of Venus." These visions of ideal beauty stood in stark contrast to the turmoil of the times, as Florence was invaded by the French, and the Medici exiled. Despite the chaos that surrounded him, Botticelli's genius came to epitomize Renaissance grace.

"THE BIRTH OF VENUS" (DETAIL) BY BOTTICELLI. UFFIZI GALLERY, FLORENCE

GRANGER/AGE FOTOSTOCK

One Block at a Time

In the 1960s Egypt's plans to build the Aswan High Dam threatened the colossal ancient temples of Abu Simbel, carved into a sandstone cliff on the Nile's west bank. To save these treasures, an international task force came up with a plan to move entire structures to safety, block by block.

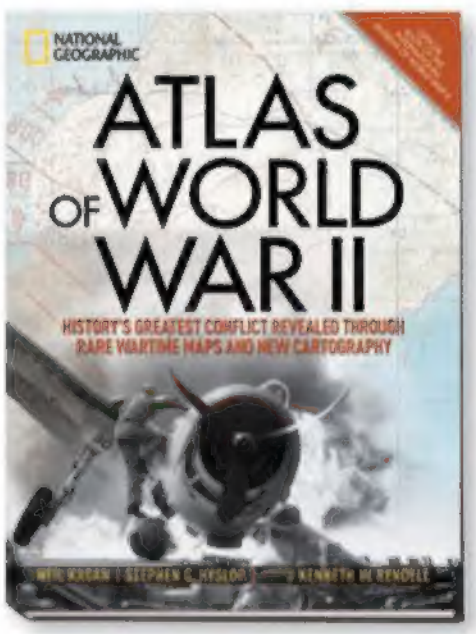
Childhood in Ancient Greece

In the birthplace of democracy, boys and girls had their destinies largely decided by gender. Girls were relegated to domestic duties, learning to be future wives and mothers. Boys looked ahead to public lives and were taught rhetoric and games to prepare them for military and political careers.

Seeds of Slavery

In 1619 a group of Africans stolen from Angola were headed for slavery in the Spanish silver mines of Mexico, but English pirates kidnapped them and took them to Virginia, where African slavery would take root in North America.

DARING. DANGEROUS. DECISIVE ... D-DAY.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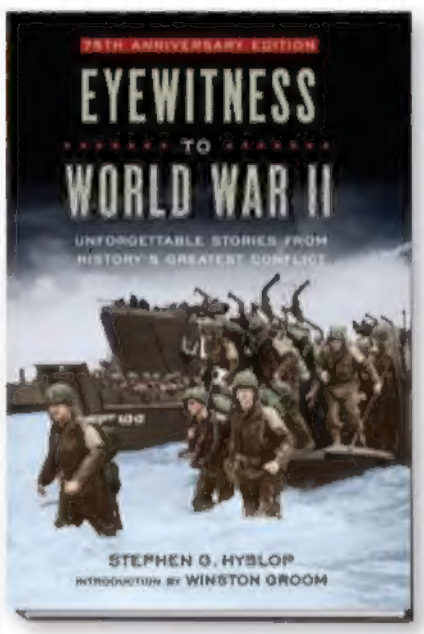
ATLAS OF WORLD WAR II
HISTORY'S GREATEST CONFLICT REVEALED THROUGH RARE WARTIME MAPS AND NEW CARTOGRAPHY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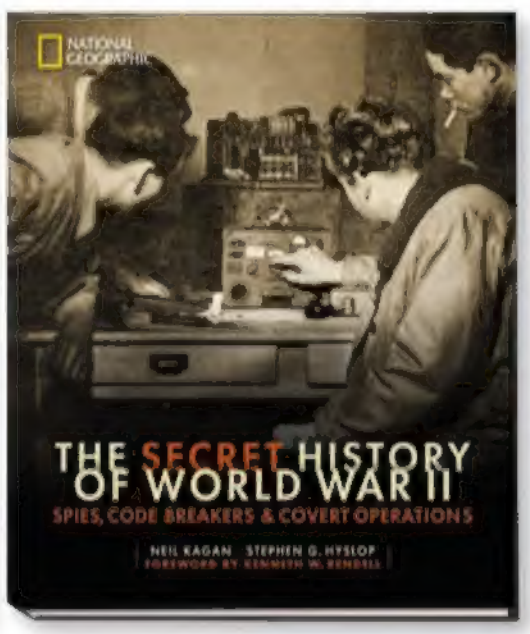
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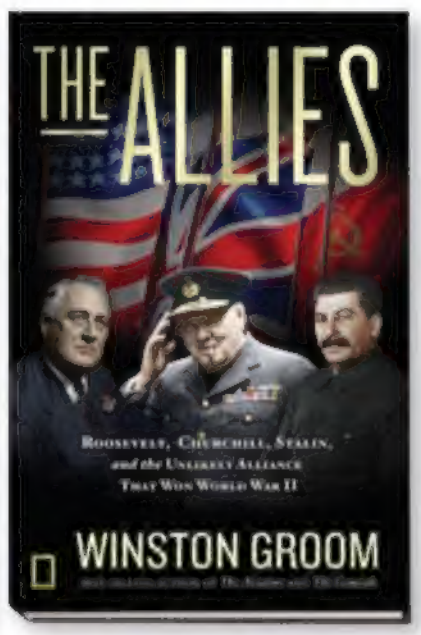

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